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Shorstop Nomar Garciaparra

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MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2004

Free in Deployed Areas

Building the road to danger

With Taliban nearby, constructing route to Afghan city of Tarin Kowt a risky job for Guardsmen

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Culled mostly from the Louisiana and New York National Guard, a combat engineer task force has staked out a new bare-bones outpost about an hour north of Kandahar, Afghanistan, as it painstakingly constructs a road between Kandahar and Tarin Kowt, a Taliban stronghold. Although the outpost hasn't been attacked yet, leaders say it's only a matter of time.

Above: Combat engineers stand guard during a convoy as mechanics fix a shredded tire. Left: Construction crews work on a new road through some of Afghanistan's most treacherous territory.

PHOTOS BY JON R. ANDERSON/Stars and Stripes

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

California budget OK'd: Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed a \$105 billion California state budget into law, noting that no new taxes were imposed while balancing spending with income.

The Republican governor failed to mention that \$7 billion in loans and one-time savings are embedded in the spending plan.

After a nearly one-month deadlock, the California Legislature gave final approval on the budget last week. Although Democrats and Republicans found much to complain about in the spending plan, they largely agreed in the end that it represented a good compromise.

Missing Utah woman: Authorities investigating the case of a missing woman were surprised by her relatives' announcement that new information from her husband had prompted them to tell volunteers to stop searching for her.

The statement released late Saturday by the families of Mark and Lori Hacking did not say what Mark Hacking had told them.

Lori Hacking, 27, has been missing since July 19, when Mark Hacking told authorities that she failed to return from an early morning jog.

Scott Peterson trial: Two judges reached a decision on whether public funds will be used to subsidize Scott Peterson's defense in his murder trial, but the ruling remains confidential, a newspaper reported Saturday.

Peterson's lawyer, Mark Geragos, and court officials cited state confidentiality laws when declining to comment, according to The Modesto Bee.

California law allows indigent defendants in capital cases to seek public money to pay investigators and expert witnesses. The decision on the request for public funding by Peterson's lawyers was made in Stanislaus County on Friday, the Bee reported.

Peterson is accused of killing his pregnant wife, Laci, and dumping her body into San Francisco Bay.

World

War crimes suspects in hiding: A prominent ally of former President Slobodan Milosevic urged war crimes suspects Sunday to resist appeals to surrender to the U.N. war crimes tribunal.

Alleging that the U.N. court is biased against Serbs, Aleksandar Vucic, the secretary-general of the Serbian Radical Party, called on Serb fugitives to remain in hiding rather than face the "unfair and inhuman treatment" received by the party's leader, Vojislav Seselj, who surrendered to The Hague, Netherlands-based court in February 2003.

Former Bosnia Serb military commander Gen. Ratko Mladic is believed to be hiding in Serbia along with 14 of 22 fugitives still sought by the U.N. court.

Serbian municipal elections set: Serbia's parliament speaker on Sunday scheduled municipal elections for Sept. 19, setting the stage for a key popularity test for Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica's government.



Wildfires: A truck passes by flames fanned by the wind from a wildfire near Thorp Prairie Road east of Cle Elum, Wash. Authorities said the blaze appears to be the work of an arsonist who has set 10 other fires in central Washington in the past two months. About 100 homes remained evacuated Saturday evening.

The popularity of Kostunica's Cabinet — which depends on the support of former President Slobodan Milosevic's Socialist Party in the republic's parliament — has steadily declined since it took office after December general elections.

Belgium gas explosion: Authorities said Sunday two people badly burned in a massive gasoline explosion last week died of their injuries, taking the death toll in one of Belgium's worst industrial accidents from 16 to 18.

About 120 people were hurt in the blast Friday in an industrial area just outside the village of Ghislenghien, about 20 miles southeast of Brussels. The cause is under investigation.

Ex-Gitmo detainees still behind bars: A judge ordered four Frenchmen, returned to France after more than two years at the U.S. military prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to be kept in jail, judicial officials said Sunday.

The four — Mourad Benchellali, Imad Kounoui, Nizar Sassi and Ibrahim Yadel — were handed to French authorities Tuesday.

Authorities here struggled for months to secure their release and are still negotiating the return of three other Frenchmen held at the lockup in Cuba.

On Sunday, a judge ordered the four suspects jailed provisionally in France — a decision defense lawyers plan to challenge.

Pakistan assassination attempt: An investigation into the failed assassination attempt against Pakistan's prime minister-designate has made headway and several arrests have been made, a government minister and other officials said Sunday.

Tatters of clothing believed worn by the bomber in Friday's attack on Shaikat Aziz have been found at the scene of the blast,

along with the man's head, a senior official said on condition of anonymity.

South Asia flooding: Thousands of children in flood-devastated Bangladesh are suffering from hunger and disease due to a lack of basic food and medicine, doctors and relief agencies said, as the death toll from monsoon rains in the region topped 1,500.

Volunteer agencies and relief officials, who are distributing food, drinking water and medicine here, complain there is not enough milk formula or cereals to feed infants, and say a shortage of oral saline solution to rehydrate those suffering from diarrhea is hampering treatment efforts.

Iran's nuclear ambitions: Iran on Sunday said it will continue to pursue acquiring nuclear energy and would not succumb to pressure or accept any conditions.

Government spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi, speaking to reporters, said Iran continues to talk to Britain, France and Germany on the use of nuclear energy.

Iranian officials have been holding talks in Paris with the European powers since Thursday to try to reach a consensus on Tehran's nuclear program.

The talks in Paris prepare the ground for a September meeting of the board of governors of the IAEA, which is expected to discuss Iran's program.

War on Terror

Iraq-Iran relations: Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi rejected Saturday the allegation his country is undermining security in Iraq.

Earlier this month, Iraqi Defense Minister Hazem Shaaheen said Iran was Iraq's "first enemy" because it was playing a role in the insurgency. Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi later distanced his government from the remark.

Photo and stories from The Associated Press

Messages of Support

★ Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts for the sacrifices you've made to defend our freedom and to take down one of the most EVIL people in the world. The cause is just, and we know you will prevail. I watch the TV coverage daily, and see the

incredible obstacles you must overcome, just the weather alone is an enemy. We're proud as we can be, of all of you, and the job you are doing, and we pray for your safety and safe return to your homeland! Thanks again! Charlie & Nancy F., Ironton, Pa

★ To our brave men and women who are fighting for the USA, Hang in there! You are in our thoughts and prayers! We love you and can't believe the bravery of our men and women! God Bless each and every one of you!

Explosions target Iraq Christian churches

BY OMAR SINAN
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A series of coordinated explosions rocked five churches across Baghdad and the northern city of Mosul on Sunday, killing at least two people and injuring 38 others in the first attacks targeting the country's Christian minority in a violent 15-month insurgency.

Two explosions just minutes apart shook separate Baghdad churches in a largely Christian neighborhood during Sunday evening services, followed shortly by two more explosions at churches in other areas of the capital. A car bomb and grenade attack hit a church in Mosul at roughly the same time, Iraqi officials said.

Many of the country's Christians had become increasingly concerned about the rising Islamic fundamentalism here and some had fled to neighboring countries to wait until the security and political situation became more calm.

"What are the Muslims doing? Does this mean that they want us out?" asked Brother Louis, a deacon at the Our Lady of Salvation, as he cried outside the Assyrian Catholic church. "Those people who commit these awful criminal acts have nothing to do with God. They will go to hell."

U.S. military officials in Baghdad's Karada neighborhood, where the first two churches were bombed, said they found a third bomb in front of another



U.S. soldiers and Iraqis gather Sunday at the scene of a car bombing at a church in Mosul, Iraq. A series of coordinated explosions rocked churches across Baghdad and Mosul on Sunday, killing at least two people and injuring about 60 others in the first attacks targeting the country's Christian minority since the 15-month violent insurgency began.

church that had not exploded. Karada is home to many of the city's Christians and many of its churches.

"We were in the Mass and suddenly we heard a big boom, and I couldn't feel my body anymore, I didn't feel anything," said Marwan Saqiq, who was covered in

blood. "I saw people taking me out with the wood and glass shattered everywhere."

U.S. military officials said at least one and possibly both of the blasts appeared to have come from booby trapped cars.

The explosions in Baghdad killed one person and wounded

27 others, according to the Health Ministry. The blasts in Mosul killed one and wounded 11, said police Maj. Fawaz Fanaan.

In Mosul, about 220 miles north of Baghdad, a car bomb blew up next to a Catholic church while worshippers were coming out of Mass, police Maj. Raed Abdel

Basit said. Several rocket-propelled grenades were launched at the church, Bowman said.

The bomb, inside a white Toyota, blew up about 7 p.m. just yards from the church, said Ghaleb Wadea, 50-year-old engineer who lives next door. Debris from the exploded car were scattered about the site, with some hanging off a nearby electricity pylon.

A bridge in Mosul was also hit, Bowman said.

Interior Ministry spokesman Sabah Kadhim said a total of four churches were hit in Baghdad — two in Karada, one in the Dora neighborhood and one in New Baghdad.

The first blast in Baghdad hit outside an Armenian church just 5 minutes into the evening service, witnesses said. The second blast hit the Assyrian Catholic church about 500 yards away.

The Vatican expressed worry Sunday over a series of explosions targeting Christian churches in Iraq.

"It's terrible and worrisome because it's the first time in Iraq that Christian churches have been targeted," said a Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Ciro Benedettini.

The attacks are "ever more worrisome because the Catholic Church has always been on the front line in the commitment for peace and solidarity toward all," Benedettini said. "It appears that there's the desire to increase tension, trying to involve all social groups, including the churches."

Pope John Paul II was a staunch opponent of preventive war against Iraq.

Powell urges Poland to maintain Iraq help

The Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland — Poland reaffirmed Sunday during a visit by Secretary of State Colin Powell that it intends to reduce its troop presence in Iraq once security there improves.

Powell, in Warsaw for ceremonies marking the 60th anniversary of the anti-Nazi Warsaw Uprising, expressed sorrow for Polish losses in Iraq, but argued that international help is still needed to quash the insurgency and rebuild Iraq.

"Freedom costs lives," Powell said, after expressing U.S. condolences for the death of a Polish soldier in Iraq last week.

"But freedom is important. We must now stand with the people of Iraq as they try to build a better life for themselves."

Poland commands a multinational mission in south-central Iraq that has shrunk in size from 9,500 troops to about 6,200 as Spain, Philippines and other countries have brought troops home in response to domestic opposition to the occupation.

The Defense Ministry said last month it would cut its troop levels from about 2,400 to between 1,000 and 1,500 in January.

See related story
on Page 10

On Sunday, Foreign Minister Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz said after talks with Powell that the reduction could begin after Iraq holds elections.

"We believe the political process going on in Iraq will result in stronger security in this country," Cimoszewicz told a joint news conference. "We believe that that opens the possibility to reduce our military personnel."

But he added, "We understand very well our co-responsibility in the success of the coalition."

Powell expressed admiration for the role of freedom that Polish fighters — most of them civilians — showed during the 1944 uprising, and urged leaders to channel that spirit into continuing to help in Iraq.

"Twenty-five million people have been freed from tyranny and dictatorship has been overthrown," Powell said. "The Iraq people are looking to the international community to give them support now."

Heavy fighting shakes Falujah

BY TODD PITMAN
The Associated Press

The campaign of violence waged by insurgents since the fall of Saddam Hussein has not waned, despite last month's transfer of sovereignty from the U.S. occupation authority.

In Falujah, U.S. forces briefly entered the edge of the city overnight in fighting that shook the area with huge explosions.

Marines were firing tanks at insurgents who had opened fire on them with mortars, machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades, the military said.

Coalition aircraft also dropped guided bombs on a building in an industrial zone from which gunmen were firing, the military said.

At least 12 people were killed and 39 wounded in the fighting, a Health Ministry official said on condition of anonymity. The U.S. military said it had killed 10 assailants during the clashes.

Meanwhile, a tribal leader mediating with kidnappers for the release of seven kidnapped truck drivers said talks had hit a dead end, denying claims by the Kenyan government that the men had been freed.

"The two sides were unable to reach an agreement. I don't know what's going to happen now," said Sheikh Hisham al-Dulaimi. He said there was no longer contact with the hostage-takers. The captives "have not been released," he said.

The three Kenyans, three Indians and one Egyptian have been held since July 21, and their kidnappers — calling themselves "The Holders of the Black Banners" — have threatened to kill them unless the Kuwaiti company that employs them withdraws from Iraq.

The company, Kuwait and Gulf Link Transport Co., had been working with al-Dulaimi to win the hostages' release. Al-Dulaimi did not give details on the breakdown in talks.

Two Turkish companies said Sunday they might stop doing business in Iraq in order to secure the re-

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Friday, 909 U.S. servicemen have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 674 died as a result of hostile action and 235 died of nonhostile causes. The department did not provide an update Saturday.

The British military has reported 60 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Poland, seven; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 771 U.S. servicemen have died — 565 as a result of hostile action and 206 of nonhostile causes, according to the Defense Department as of Saturday.

The latest deaths reported by U.S. Central Command.

■ No deaths reported.

The latest identifications reported by the Defense Department:

■ Marine Gunery Sgt. Shawn A. Lane, 33, Corning, N.Y., died Wednesday in an attack in Anbar province, assigned to Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

lease of two Turkish truck drivers whose abduction was announced in a videotape broadcast on Al-Jazeera television Saturday.

Also on Sunday, a roadside bomb hit a 1st Infantry Division patrol in Samarra, a hotbed of violence 60 miles northwest of Baghdad, killing a U.S. soldier and wounding two others.

Afghan road-building takes troops into danger

Guardsmen taming tracks from Kandahar to Taliban stronghold

BY JON R. ANDERSON

Stars and Stripes

FORWARD OPERATING BASE TIGER, Afghanistan — The road from Kandahar to Tarin Kowt snakes its way through Afghanistan's southern badlands like a desert viper — long, dusty and dangerous.

A small contingent of soldiers, however, has come to tame the snake.

Culled mostly from the Louisiana and New York National Guard, a combat engineer task force has staked out a new bare-bones outpost about an hour north of Kandahar.

Afghan crews already have started building the two-lane highway that will mark the first leg out of Kandahar. The Guardsmen will take it the rest of the way.

At places little more than a goat trail, the fire-shedding, bone-jarring 75-mile stretch of road is currently a full day's marathon in only the most hardy four-wheel drive vehicle.

Ranging over narrow, mile-high mountain passes, through ancient medieval villages and across rocky desert moonscapes covered in inches of thick dust, the road runs through territory that is treacherous in its more ways than one.

When the United States invaded Afghanistan three years ago, most of the Taliban's top leaders fled to Tarin Kowt.

The remote capital of the Uruzgan province, Tarin Kowt is the birthplace of Mullah Omar, the regime's founding leader. The village and its surrounding mountains are also among the places U.S. intelligence suspect Osama bin Laden may be hiding.

Harsh frontiers

U.S. military leaders still openly decry the area as a Taliban stronghold.

A few hundred National Guard engineers will now build a road straight into the Taliban heartland.

"We're going through some pretty rough country," said project manager Capt. Chuck Hudson, from his new command post scratched out of the desert floor earlier this month and dubbed Forward Operating Base Tiger.

With the bulk of the task force

coming from the Louisiana National Guard's 528th Combat Engineer Battalion, FOB Tiger is named in honor of the Louisiana State University mascot.

The Spartan camp offers few comforts: no phones, e-mail or air conditioning, and showers only run when the 100-gallon water tank has been filled.

Although the outpost hasn't been attacked yet, leaders say it's only a matter of time.

"We'll probably jump the FOB six or seven times," said Hudson of the camp that will follow the construction. And with each jump, they'll move deeper into Taliban territory.

That's why combat engineers got this job, Hudson said.

Where civilian aid groups have been putting in roads, Afghanistan's new roads, this is an area

few dare tread.

"No one else will do it," Hudson said.

Officials hope the road will bring new stability to the region.

"How did the Romans tame the empire?" asked Col. Richard Pedersen, commander of the 25th Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade and Task Force Bronco, which oversees Afghanistan's southern front.

"Roads," he said. "Just as those roads allowed quicker supply and reinforcement of legionnaire outposts, they also ushered in improved trade routes. Pedersen said this road should help Afghanistan's central government extend its influence while

offering new economic opportunities for those who live there.

"Roads are the key," Pedersen said. "And this one is pretty damn important."

Once completed by the end of next year, assuming the project proceeds as planned, the new highway will cut the drive between the two cities from 12 hours to less than three.

'Bring 'em on'

Black-clad local Afghan militia forces, a contingent of Humvee-mounted scouts and OH-58 Kiowa Warrior helicopters with the 25th ID's 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment have been enlisted to help provide security. The troops say they are prepared for what could be a running gun battle as construction moves north.

"You're always nervous, any way you look at it," said Staff Sgt.



JON R. ANDERSON/Stars and Stripes
A contingent of combat engineers from the New York National Guard have staked an American flag with the names each victim killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks written on it at a new road-building outpost deep inside the Taliban heartland in Afghanistan.

Planting a message to the Taliban

FORWARD OPERATING BASE TIGER, Afghanistan — On Sept. 11, 2001, Sgt. 1st Class Armando Lopez led a small contingent of New York National Guardsmen into Manhattan's ground zero within hours of the attack.

To this day, the New York City native and volunteer firefighter carries pictures of three friends who died in the carnage.

"Never in a million years," Lopez said, did he imagine he'd one day find himself helping build a road from the city where Osama bin Laden likely hatched his plans to the village where he may now be hiding.

Part of a new combat engineer task force, the 204th Combat Engineer New York National Guardsmen are helping put down a new two-lane road from Kandahar to Tarin Kowt, a super highway by Afghanistan standards through the heartland of the Taliban movement.

"It feels a little like we were meant to come here," Lopez said. "They wanted to get rid of us, but now we're here to get rid of them."

To make that plain, Lopez planted a U.S. flag atop a machine gun bunker at their austere construction camp with the names of the nearly 3,000

victims of Sept. 11 written into the red stripes of the American banner.

"The flag is there not to say 'hello,'" Lopez said, "but to say 'goodbye' to the Taliban."

Sgt. Ken Rose, who pulled security around the Twin Towers rubble, said the whole experience is surreal.

"It's definitely weird," said the truck driver from Pennsylvania, leaning into the shady side his big rig water truck. "This is the last thing I ever expected to be doing. I never thought I'd be here, much less building a road."

For Staff Sgt. Paul Vance, this is his fourth combat stint — the fifth if you count his tour at ground zero.

He just hopes this tour isn't a repeat of his experience in Somalia where he built miles of new road so aid convoys could push out beyond the main cities. Until, that is, a firefight left scores of U.S. Rangers and Delta commandos dead and wounded and the United States reversed course and pulled out of the country.

"We just handed those roads over to the warlords," he said. "It was all for nothing. I just hope we don't do the same thing here."

— Jon Anderson

Two-front war

The real fight, said Harper, a Rockwell, Texas, construction manager in civilian life, will be one of logistics.

"Our single biggest challenge is going to be water," he said. "You can't build a road without water, lots of water."

It can be hard to find during southern Afghanistan's blistering summer months where temperatures routinely top 100 degrees.

For a project this size, crews need to spray 40,000 gallons of water a day to allow base materials to compact properly under heavy, earth-rattling rollers.

Planners had thought a reservoir from a nearby dam would provide an ample supply. But that was before the summer drought drained most of it.

While teams are exploring ways to tap water's left without bogging tankers down in the mudflats, Afghan drillers have been contracted to try and bore into underground aquifers.

Meanwhile, the Guardsmen are battling on a second logistics front.

"Our equipment has been here since May 2002," Harper said. "And most of it was antiquated before it ever got here. He knows because he brought over most of it during his first deployment to Afghanistan."

The 80 bulldozers, scrapers, graders, dump trucks and other heavy equipment critical for project "have been eaten up over here."

Parts, he said, can take weeks to arrive. "And if that's for a piece of prime equipment, that's a long time to wait," he said.

"Tires are becoming a huge deal," he added. No fewer than five tires blew out in a single day of construction last week.

"We'll solve these problems," brigade commander Pedersen told the engineers during a visit to the construction site last week.

The road will go through, he promised. The viper will be tamed.

E-mail Jon R. Anderson at: anderson.jon@mail.strips.com



Staff Sgt. Paul Vance

Engineers take powerful role in Iraq

U.S. soldiers direct restoration of electricity and train service

BY RICK EMERT
Stars and Stripes

FORWARD OPERATING BASE DANGER, Iraq — For staff members from the 1st Infantry Division Engineer Brigade, working in Iraq comes down to power: who has it and for how long.

Right now, the fledgling nation doesn't have enough.

During the summer's sweltering heat, power, specifically electricity, is a primary concern for Iraqis, said Lt. Col. Courtney Paul, Engineer Brigade executive officer.

"We provide enough power for this region, and export about 60 percent to Baghdad," Paul said. "We provide about 35 percent of Baghdad's power."

Although power outages are the source of many complaints from Iraqis, Paul said, people are getting more power than they ever did under Saddam Hussein's reign.

However, since Iraqis have gained more freedoms, they are buying air conditioners and other large appliances in numbers never seen before.

"If we ever want to meet the demand, we have to lower the usage," Paul said. Engineers have launched informational campaigns to get Iraqis to start practicing energy conservation. In Kirkuk, residents are paying a minimal fee based on the amount of power they use.

"It's something we're trying," Paul said.

"That is a sure way to have people slow down on the amount of power they use."

Currently Iraqis are going 12 hours with power and 12 hours without, said Capt. David Unger, the brigade's coordinator for the Ministry of Electricity. Three to four months ago, most Iraqis had only six to eight hours of power per 24-hour period, he said.

The controlled power outages are a major source of complaints in Baghdad, where residents rarely were without before last year's fighting began.

"Before the war, Baghdad had power 24 hours a day," Unger said. "Others had only maybe four hours. Now there is equal sharing of power everywhere in Iraq."

Unger estimated that in about two years

the electricity situation would stabilize with no forced power outages. He expects Iraqis to have 14 hours on and 10 hours off by the fall.

While electricity is a major concern for Iraqis, it's not the only area in which the engineers are making improvements.

Capt. Jeffrey Holt is working with the Ministry of Transportation to improve the nation's railway system.

"To ensure the problems with the Iraqi Republic Railway are addressed," Holt said, "We're working to get the rail line back up."

The railway is of major importance to the city of Kirkuk, which would benefit highly from the railway in exporting its oil by-products like sulfur and grain that is harvested in the region, Holt said.

Email Rick Emert at: Emert@mid.estripes.osd.mil



Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun

Once feared beheaded, Marine goes on leave

BY MARK THIESSEN
The Associated Press

WEST JORDAN, Utah — An Arab-American Marine once feared beheaded by terrorists in Iraq arrived at his brother's house after being granted military leave.

A family member moving cars in a driveway said Saturday evening that Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun had arrived. Television footage showed Hassoun slipping into a side door at his brother's suburban house.

Hassoun was not making an appearance for reporters waiting outside the house of his brother, Mohamed Hassoun. The family member, who refused to give his name, said the family would be making no statement, although family spokesman Tarek Nosseir said a statement was possible Sunday.

Hassoun, 24, has been under a cloud of sus-

picion since failing to report for duty June 20. Videotape surfaced showing him apparently kidnapped, blindfolded with a sword hanging over his head.

He later turned up at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. It remains unclear how he traveled from Iraq to Lebanon, where he was born and still has relatives.

He has denied that he was a deserter.

Hassoun had been at Camp Lejeune, N.C., since July 20 undergoing what the military calls a "reparation process." The Naval Criminal Investigative Service has been looking into Hassoun's disappearance from his base near Fallujah, Iraq.

"Cpl. Hassoun has gone on leave," 1st Lt. Clark D. Carpenter, a Camp Lejeune spokesman, said Saturday. "That's a standard part of the reparation process."

Carpenter would not give details, but The Salt Lake Tribune reported that Hassoun had started a 30-day convalescent leave.

Hassoun will be joined in Utah by his parents and new bride, who are making arrangements to leave Tripoli, Lebanon — the Hassoun family's traditional home — sometime next week.

While in West Jordan, near Salt Lake City, Hassoun hopes to relax, eat out and catch up with relatives, said a man at Mohamed Hassoun's home who identified himself as a family member but would not give his name.

Relatives worry, however, that Hassoun's presence will signal a return of the media hype that erupted outside the family home for weeks after his disappearance.

The family reportedly had contacted police for protection, but West Jordan police Capt. Gary Cox said Saturday through a spokeswoman that he was unaware of such a request.

Messages of Support

★ ALL MARINES: I'm a Viet Vet and want you to know that not a minute goes by that you're not in my thoughts...Keep a low profile, complete the mission and come on home. Godspeed SEMPER FI. George Powell

★ Hi Lucius: Just wanted you to know we love you and are very proud of you. Everyone OK here. All our prayers are with you. Be careful. Hope to hear from you soon. We love you, Mom, Dad, Ashton, Sheila, Andrea

★ I have 2 kids, one who is about to go active duty in a few months, and one who is still in high school. I just wanted to say thank you for everything you are doing for our country. You are defending us, our children, and our country and we are all grateful for your sacrifices.

Please know this, we are all with you. We know that this is quite possibly the toughest time in your life, and we pray for you, often several times a day. We know you are fighting for us, and we will stand behind you every step until

you are able to return home. As a father might speak to his children, I'd like to hug each of you and tell you that what you're doing is the right thing. No one wanted war but now that it is joined I assure you that when this war is over (and it will be over soon), you will return to the US and we will be there for you waiting with open arms. We don't know where you are right now, all we know that is each day passes you are facing greater threats and challenges. We want you to remember your training, and come back to us safely after your work is done. Godspeed and Victory to all of you.

★ Hi to all service members. Recently retired from Fort Leonard Wood so wanted to send special encouragement and prayers to all from that base. We all stand behind you. Scott Williamson

★ Hi Ted: All is well in Clarksville, Tennessee. The weather is lovely here. Everyone at Seaton is praying for you as well as all the rest of the soldiers. The cats and I Love and Miss you very much.

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Abizaid meets with Pakistan president

The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Gen. John Abizaid, the leader of U.S. Central Command, held talks with Pakistan's president on Saturday to discuss security matters and cooperation in the war against terrorism, the state-run news agency reported.

President Gen. Pervez Musharraf and Abizaid, who arrived in Pakistan on Friday, also discussed the regional and international situation "with particular reference to Afghanistan," the Associated Press of Pakistan said.

They met in Rawalpindi, a garrison city near the capital, Islamabad.

The Central Command oversees U.S. forces in the Middle East, Central Asia and the Horn of Africa.

Abizaid also met with Vice Chief of the Army Staff Gen. Mohammed Yusef and other senior Pakistani military commanders, the news agency reported, without giving any other details.

Official: Arab troops must replace coalition

Saudi foreign minister says Muslim, Arab forces will go to Iraq only if under U.N., supported by Iraqis

BY ABULHAI AL-SHIHRI

The Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal said Sunday that any Muslim and Arab forces sent to Iraq must be a replacement of coalition troops there.

Saud, speaking at a news conference in the Red Sea port city of Jiddah, said Iraq must replace the coalition troops currently in Iraq, and not be in addition to it.

His comments came after he met Arab League Secretary-General Amr Moussa to discuss a Saudi proposal to send Arab and Muslim troops to Iraq.

Saud said the kingdom had contacted a number of countries interested in the situation in Iraq "and these contacts resulted in laying the framework through which sending troops to Iraq could be discussed."

"It was confirmed to us that the Iraqi government, with the full and clear support of the Iraqi people, must request" sending troops, he said.

Germany says U.S. election won't change stance on Iraq

BERLIN — Germany will stick to its refusal to send troops to Iraq regardless of what this year's U.S. presidential election, a senior German official said in an interview published Saturday.

Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder vehemently opposed last year's U.S.-led war, straining relations with the administration of President Bush. Officials repeatedly have said that Berlin won't deploy troops in Iraq, although it has been helping with humanitarian aid and training a new Iraqi police force.

Bangladesh will not help with Muslim force, reports say

DHAKA, Bangladesh — Bangladesh will not contribute troops to a Muslim security force proposed by Saudi Arabia to help restore stability in Iraq, media reports said Sunday.

"We have said time and again that we will not send our troops [to Iraq] unless under the command of the United Nations," the New Age newspaper quoted an unnamed foreign ministry spokesman as saying.

From The Associated Press

"The kingdom's wish, in the first place, is to find a way to accelerate the withdrawal of coalition troops from Iraq. I hope this issue is taken seriously," he said.

He said Saudi officials held discussions with the interim Iraqi government, the United Nations secretary-general and the

American administration "and we asked them to study these requirements."

"These thoughts were discussed with Secretary of State Colin Powell," he said, adding that the proposal to send Muslim troops to Iraq originated from Malaysia.

Powell was in the kingdom last week and

also met there with Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, who urged Arab and Muslim nations to send troops.

"The troops from Arab and Muslim nations sent to Iraq will not be similar to the current troops. They don't come as invaders or occupiers. They will go there to help the Iraqi people," Saud said.

On Wednesday, Saud said there had been preliminary discussions about the possibility of forming a Muslim force and deploying it in Iraq to supplement the U.S.-led coalition.

Many Arab and Muslim countries have indicated they would be willing to get more involved in Iraq if they could do so under a U.N. umbrella, rather than a perceived American one. They fear that sending troops to Iraq may anger their citizens, many of whom are hostile toward the United States and what is seen as Iraq's U.S.-backed government.

Under the Saudi proposal, Arab and Muslim countries that do not border Iraq would be invited to contribute. Iraq believes involvement in its security by its immediate neighbors could ultimately lead to political conflicts with them.

U.S. lawyer to file suit for 33 Gitmo detainees

BY ADNAN MALIK

The Associated Press

MANAMA, Bahrain — A U.S.-based human rights lawyer has left Bahrain with authorization from their families to file suit on behalf of 33 Arabs he believes are unjustly detained at Guantanamo Bay.

In what he calls an "emotionally draining experience," Clive Stafford-Smith spent a week in an office at the Bahrain Center for Human Rights meeting with the relatives of terror suspects detained without charge for more than two years by the United States at its military base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Stafford-Smith left Bahrain on Sunday.

Stafford-Smith's New Orleans-based human rights group, Justice in Exile, began filing lawsuits after the Supreme Court ruled June 28 that the Guantanamo detainees have a right to challenge their detention in civilian courts. The U.S. Defense Department had maintained the nearly 600 detainees could be deprived of normal legal rights because they were an exceptional security threat.

"We have received an overwhelming response here and, like most people, they are desperate to help their loved ones," Stafford-Smith said Saturday. "Some broke down in tears as they provided details about their loved ones."

Some 50 relatives came to see him, from as far as Libya and Syria. He finished with a portfolio that authorizes his New Orleans-based human rights group, Justice in Exile, to represent 19 Saudi detainees, six Bahrainis,

three Jordanians, two Libyans and a detainee each from Qatar, Syria and Yemen.

Justice in Exile, which is offering free legal assistance to the families of detainees, plans to file lawsuits in a U.S. federal court to try to win the detainees' release. The group has already filed suits on behalf of 80 detainees in a federal court in Washington, he said.

Stafford-Smith said the U.S. government has made it difficult to trace detainees' families.

"The U.S. government keeps the names (of the detainees) secret and yet they tell us that we can't represent them (detainees) until we get permission from their family members," Stafford-Smith said.

"It's like Alice in Wonderland."

"We are up against the might of the American government, and we need all the help we can get," he said.

Stafford-Smith said the Bahrain Center for Human Rights will be the regional center for assisting detainees' families from Afghanistan to Algeria.

Families could not be reached for comment. But Nabeel Rajab, president of the Bahraini group, said they were very optimistic after meeting Stafford-Smith.

"They see this as a ray of hope for their imprisoned relatives," Rajab said.

Bahrain sent a delegation in May 2002 to identify Bahraini detainees at Guantanamo and assess their condition. A Foreign Ministry official said at the time that contacts would continue at various levels until the detainees returned home to their families.

Bahrain is a key U.S. Gulf ally and home to the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet.

Happy homecoming



Spc. Maureen Peltier, of Renton, Wash., left, is hugged by her son Michael Aspen after she and members of the Washington National Guard's 1161 Transportation Company arrive at Camp Murray, Wash., early Saturday. The National Guard unit served 15 of its 18 months of activation in Iraq, where they completed nearly 14,000 missions and drove more than 1,000,000 miles.

Iraqi girl seeks U.S. asylum following threats

BY HOPE YEN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A 15-year-old Iraqi girl who came to America for medical treatment is seeking political asylum, claiming persecution at home because her family cooperated with the U.S. military.

The petition, under review by Citizenship and Immigration Services, seeks reprieve for the girl and her mother, who asked not to be identified for fear of retaliation against other family members still in Baghdad. Several of them have been shot at and one was killed, according to the petition.

The case, which is expected to be decided Tuesday, is believed to be among the first U.S. instances of an Iraqi seeking political asylum. A victory could open the door for other Iraqis in the United States who claim persecution for reasons other than race, religion or political opinion.

"Here, it's just their association with the U.S. military that's causing the problems," said Jeff Sullivan, a Washington lawyer at Foley & Lardner who is representing the mother and daughter. "Something has to be done."

The girl began having pains last year from a growth in her cer-

vix that was later determined to be cancerous, the petition states. But after consulting 27 Iraqi doctors, none said they could provide the appropriate treatment. Finally, the mother approached U.S. Army doctors in Baghdad, who arranged for treatment at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

The girl received successful treatment last fall, and is expected to fully recover. But after she and her mother left Baghdad, family members began receiving death threats from insurgents who resented the girl's special attention from U.S. troops, the petition states, citing sworn affidavits from Army officers.

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JESSICA INIGO/Stars and Stripes

Staff Sgt. Joe Thompson, AFN Hessen noncommissioned officer in charge, jams out on his guitar in the radio show Thursday in Wiesbaden, Germany. "GI Joe," as he's known on the air, has been playing guitar for more than 10 years and is regular entertainment at a German pub near Frankfurt.

AFN Hessen's 'GI Joe' rocks the house for Klamotte crowd

BY JESSICA INIGO
Stars and Stripes

WIESBADEN, Germany — Staff Sgt. Joe Thompson, or "GI Joe" as he's known on the radio airwaves of AFN Hessen, doesn't want to be the next American Idol. Heck, he doesn't even want to get paid for his sore vocal cords and calloused fingers. He just wants to rock.

This is because to Thompson it's not work — otherwise it wouldn't be called "playing" the guitar.

As a regular player at the Klamotte pub in Dreieich, near Frankfurt, Thompson said he jams just for fun and to get the crowd into a better rhythm.

He's been playing in public for only about five months, but has been playing the guitar since he was 14 years old.

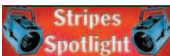
Now, at 27, Thompson said he has finally built up enough confidence to break out of his shell and take his music to the masses.

Thompson made his public debut during the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course at Fort Meade, Md. He said he was itching for something to do after class and on the weekends, so he bought a guitar and was given the opportunity to show off his talent.

In a dark corner of Hard Times Cafe, a bar and chilli drive in Laurel, Md., Thompson brought out his guitar and saw for the first time an atmosphere change because of his music.

In a sing-along type show, Thompson made strangers friends and the shy confident with his songs.

"Yeah, it's great," Thompson said with a New England-tinged voice and disarming smile. "I just want everyone to have fun. I love when everyone gets into it and has a good time."



Staff Sgt. Joe Thompson
Has been playing the guitar for more than 10 years and just recently began playing and singing for audiences at a German pub.

Age: 27

Job: AFN Hessen noncommissioned officer in charge and on-air personality "GI Joe."

Hometown: Oakland, Maine

Marital status: single

Stars and Stripes

When he got back to Germany from the six-week course with his newfound confidence, Thompson took an offer from some friends at a barbecue to start playing at the German pub every couple of weeks.

Thompson looks like the typical cigarette-smoking, laid-back, guitar-playing, frontman found in many of his favorite bands, but he's as comfortable holding an M16 as he is his acoustic guitar.

In fact, he's not calling "GI Joe" for nothing. Thompson said without hesitation that he's planning to do 20 years in the Army.

With his battle dress uniform on, Thompson morphs into what a soldier as he does a rock star while on stage.

In both aspects Thompson

could be called a natural, since soldiering comes just as easy.

Thompson, who never took guitar lessons and doesn't read music, usually plays songs by ear. He admits, though, that sometimes it takes a little more work to get his songs down.

Songs such as Led Zeppelin's "Rain Song" is something he worked hard to master, while easier tunes, such as Eagle Eye Cherry's "Save Tonight" are nothing but fun.

Thompson was drawn to the guitar because his father, David, used to play. His father also played by ear, though never broke out into playing for a public audience as Thompson did.

However, Thompson said playing at the Klamotte feels as if he's just playing for friends because of the "Cheers" type atmosphere there.

"The angle Joe plays up is humor," said Sgt. 1st Class Tom Clementson, AFN Heidelberg station commander.

"Obviously, he's not Jimi Hendrix, but he's good and he works hard. He's the type of guy that makes a little mistake now and then and can laugh at himself. He makes it a lot of fun and he's really good," said Clementson, who hosted the barbecue that got Thompson the Klamotte gig.

The fairly regular audience puts the soldier at ease while playing, he said.

"I get a good reaction from the crowd, but I don't think of myself as a good guitar player and singer," the performer said during a live show of Thursday's "Long Drive Home" on the AFN Hessen radio station. "I don't suck, but I'm not anything special. I just enjoy what I do and making people happy through the universal language of music."

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Sailor involved in accident that kills 2 Italians

BY KENDRA HELMER
Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — Two Italians died early Sunday in a car accident involving a U.S. sailor from Naples.

The petty officer third class was traveling alone when the accident occurred at about 5:15 a.m. in a tunnel on the Tangenziale, the main highway through Naples, said Lt. Cmdr. Jacky Fisher, spokeswoman for Naval Support Activity Naples.

The sailor, assigned to the security department, is in stable condition in an Italian hospital, Fisher said. His name is not being released pending next-of-kin notification.

Though details are sketchy, Italian news said the two Italian men,

ages 21 and 19 from the Naples suburb of Casoria, had gotten out of their vehicle in the Camaldoli tunnel. News reports differed on whether there was a problem with their vehicle or whether they had been involved in an earlier accident.

The sailor's 2004 Volkswagen Jetta apparently hit the two men. One died at the scene, and another died at a local hospital.

Naples authorities are investigating the incident with the cooperation of U.S. authorities.

It is the second fatal accident this summer involving a sailor from Naples.

On June 12, three Naples sailors were killed and two seriously injured in a fiery accident when their car flipped.

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Few dependents still in Bahrain after evacuation

BY KENDRA HELMER
Stars and Stripes

Only a handful of military dependents remains in Bahrain since an evacuation order was announced July 2.

About 940 dependents have left since the Pentagon ordered a "temporary relocation" because of possible terrorist attacks.

Probably fewer than 10 people with special circumstances that need to be worked out remain, said Cmdr. Jamie Graybeal, 5th Fleet spokesman, in a phone interview from Manama.

There has been no word from the Pentagon on whether the evacuation, originally planned to last for at least 30 days, will become permanent.

Graybeal said the relocation has gone smoothly.

"There haven't been any big issues that have come to light," he said. "A lot is going to precipitate out of decisions in Washington."

One of those decisions is how the evacuation will affect the 64 teachers who work at the large

Department of Defense Dependents' Schools facility, which more than 700 students attend.

"We're still waiting to see what will happen," said Joseph Tafoya, director of Department of Defense Education Activity, in a telephone interview from Arlington, Va.

Because DODEA has been told to treat the situation as a temporary evacuation, the teachers, who are on summer break now, have not packed up.

"It would be premature to pack them out," he said.

The teachers are being assigned to temporary duty at schools in Europe and at the state-side headquarters.

The State Department in July issued a travel advisory for Bahrain, stating on its Web site, "Credible information indicates that extremists ... are planning attacks in Bahrain."

The warning mentions attacks on Westerners in Saudi Arabia, linked to Bahrain via a 15-mile causeway.

E-mail Kendra Helmer at: helmerk@mail.strips.esd.mil

Former Navy officer sentenced for child porn

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — A former career Naval officer was given a 37-month prison sentence on Friday for having child pornography in his car.

Daniel Davidson already is serving a 28-year sentence after being convicted in state court of molesting a 6-year-old North Kingstown girl in September 1999 and kidnapping a 6-year-old Narragansett girl the following month.

A U.S. District Court judge denied a request by Davidson's attorney for the time to be served concurrently with his state sentence.

Davidson is a retired Naval chief petty officer who lived in Jamestown.

From The Associated Press

Exercise offers more than two hots and a cot

By LISA HORN
Stars and Stripes

NOVO SELO TRAINING AREA, Bulgaria — When troops arrived to set up Bulwark '04 in May, the scruffy hill where the base camp now sits was not much more than grass and soil.

Six weeks later, a self-sufficient tent city materialized, offering troops at the monthlong exercise a whole lot more than two hots and a cot.

Soldiers participating in the U.S. Army Europe exercise are from active-duty units based in Germany along with roughly 500 Alabama, Illinois and Germany-based National Guard and Reserve soldiers.

Soldiers are living in 114 tents at the base camp and training in live-fire combat scenarios and using the site's Military Operations Urban Terrain course, which simulates a small town.

"This exercise has brought many units together that typically might not play a role ... such as what they're doing out here," said Lt. Col. Mark Kelley, in charge of Bulwark's logistics.

The 16,000-square foot dining facility is open 24 hours a day, but if dinner doesn't satisfy soldiers' hunger, troops can buy a candy

bar before the post exchange closes at 10 p.m., pick up their mail at the remote Army post office or settle finance issues with Mannheim's 208th Finance Battalion.

Morale, Welfare and Recreation has two tents for watching movies and the American Forces Network and has set up a separate tent for morale calls.

The 160th Forward Surgical Team has set up a tent to handle any medical need just short of brain surgery.

Because of the training site's remote location — the closest hospital is about 45 minutes away — Bulwark organizers decided that a surgical unit would serve well at the exercise, said Maj. James Davis, construction management officer 18th Engineer Brigade, the exercise's commanding unit.

The unit, which deployed to Iraq for a year beginning in March 2003, is used to working in the field and providing care to foreign troops as well, said Dr. (Maj.) Mohamed Haque, general surgeon for the 160th.

Next week, a platoon of Bulgarian troops will train alongside the U.S. soldiers and the 160th will provide care to them just as they did to them and other coalition forces downrange, Haque added.

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LISA HORN/Stars and Stripes

Soldiers walk across part of the Bulwark '04 base camp Saturday at the Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria. The 141-tent camp, which took six weeks to construct, is the first combined training exercise in Bulgaria since the country joined NATO in May. Next week, Bulgarian and U.S. forces will train together.

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Stars and Stripes reporter Terry Boyd speaks with Servicemembers from Triple Deuce at Firebase Purgatory.

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From left to right, Sgt. Wesley Parkhurst, Spec. Robert Isaacs, Terry Boyd, and Pfc. Michael Greenwood.

IN THE WORLD

Arafat loyalists fire on gathering of Fatah officials

BY ALI DARAGHMEH
The Associated Press

NABLUS, West Bank — Masked gunmen loyal to Yasser Arafat broke up a conference of reformers from his Fatah movement who were calling for a "revolution," as the veteran Palestinian leader faced new, sharp divisions among his people.

The incident in the West Bank city of Nablus was just the latest in weeks of internal Palestinian unrest. The unrest centers on charges of widespread corruption in Arafat's administration, and beneath the surface, frustration with lack of progress toward creation of a Palestinian state or economic development after four years of bloody conflict with Israel.

Less than a week after Arafat ended a crisis in the Palestinian Cabinet, he was again under pressure for changes from among his own supporters, although there was no suggestion Arafat himself should go.

About 20 men, all armed and many wearing ski masks, burst into a conference of more than 70 Fatah officials, firing over the heads of the presiding officials and claiming that the conference was an anti-Arafat conspiracy.

The weeklong meeting was meant to discuss reform and new elections for the Fatah leadership, which were held last 15 years ago.

No one was injured by the gunfire, but the meeting broke up.

Several delegates met with the gunmen to discuss whether the conference could continue.

The gunmen identified themselves as members of the Al Awdia Brigades, a small militant group.

In a letter released later to reporters, the Fatah leaders warned Arafat that corrupt officials "are using their position in the Palestinian Authority to steal and to break the law," and that the Palestinian government was losing the public's trust.

"President Arafat, this might be the last chance for reforming our situation, before reaching the end. We need a revolution within our Fatah movement," said the letter.

In a separate development, Mohammed Dahlan, a former security chief and powerful figure in the Gaza Strip, threatened huge demonstrations unless Arafat reforms his government within 10 days.

Jordan arrests 3 more in al-Qaida-linked plot

BY JAMAL HALABY
The Associated Press

AMMAN, Jordan — Three more militants have been arrested since April in connection with an al-Qaida-linked plot to attack the U.S. Embassy and Jordanian government offices with chemical and conventional weapons, officials said Sunday.

The arrests announced Sunday bring to nine the number detained in the alleged plot. Four others were killed in a police shootout on April 20, while another four remain at large, including Jordanian militant Abu-Musab al-Zarqawi, thought to be directing anti-U.S. attacks in neighboring Iraq and to be a close associate of al-Qaida boss Osama bin Laden, the officials told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

They said the 17 militants were all affiliated with a previously unknown group called Kata'ib al-Af'lawih, Arabic for the Battalions of Monotheism, which is linked to the al-Qaida terror organization.

Azmi al-Jayousi, the alleged mastermind of the Jordan-based terror cell who was captured in

April, has confessed to military prosecutors about what would have been al-Qaida's first chemical attack, the officials added. Jordanian officials say the plot targeted the Jordanian prime minister's office, the secret service agency, the U.S. Embassy in Jordan and other sites.

The suspects are expected to be charged in a military court with conspiracy to commit terror. No trial date has been set.

In April, Jordan announced it had foiled a terrorist plot blamed on al-Zarqawi. Jordanian authorities said then the suspects plotted to use chemicals and explosives to blow up vital institutions, including Jordan's intelligence department — an attack officials say would have killed thousands of people.

Al-Jayousi and some other suspects in detention had said in televised confessions that their terror plot was hatched and financed by al-Zarqawi.

In the autopsy posted on the Internet in May, a man who identified himself as al-Zarqawi acknowledged that his group was plotting the plot targeting, but denied chemical weapons were to be used.



Warsaw Uprising veterans salute Sunday during a changing of the guards ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw, Poland. The ceremony was a part of the observances, attended by German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, marking the 60th anniversary of the anti-Nazi uprising that lasted for 63 days.

Schroeder acknowledges Polish suffering under Nazi occupation

BY TONY CZUCZKA
The Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland — In a gesture of humility, German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder bowed on the steps of a memorial to the Warsaw Uprising against the Nazi occupation, acknowledging Sunday the "immeasurable suffering" inflicted by Germans when they crushed the revolt 60 years ago.

Schroeder became the first German chancellor to attend an anniversary of the two-month uprising, which ended with 200,000 Warsaw residents dead and most of the city systematically destroyed by the Nazis.

"I consider it a great personal honor to have been invited and a big-hearted gesture to my country, which brought such immeasurable suffering to the Poles with the war it started," Schroeder said after talks with Polish Prime Minister Marek Belka.

Schroeder bowed on the steps of the Warsaw Uprising Memorial as a lone trumpeter played

taps. Sirens sounded across Warsaw at 5 p.m., the hour the uprising began on Aug. 1, 1944.

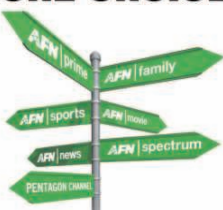
Schroeder, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell and Britain's Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott were to pay homage to the Warsaw fighters later Sunday at official ceremonies with Polish leaders, capping three days of the biggest commemorations ever.

Remembrance of the 63-day

battle against Nazi troops by Poland's poorly armed and out-manned Home Army resistance movement and civilians — even children — has provoked an outpouring of patriotism in Poland.

Powell expressed "admiration for the spirit that kept freedom alive during those terrible days of World War II," drawing an allusion to Poland's military support in Iraq.

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90 percent of Afghans registered to vote

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — About 90 percent of the Afghan electorate has registered to vote in October's landmark presidential election, the United Nations said Sunday, as it began winding down a registration effort marred by bloody attacks on election staff and voters.

According to the latest U.N. figures, 8.7 million of an estimated 9.8 million eligible voters have collected ID cards that will allow them to cast a ballot when polling begins Oct. 9 in Afghanistan's first-ever direct national vote.

The enthusiastic turnout is a relief for the world body, which has overcome misgivings about Afghanistan's readiness for elections under strong pressure from the United States.



Afghan women wait Sunday at a mosque in Kabul for their turns to sign up to vote in the country's first free elections.

It is also a welcome surprise for President Hamid Karzai, who is widely expected to defeat 22 rivals to secure a new five-year term.

Registration for elections, which are supposed to cap a U.N.-sponsored peace drive begun after the ouster of the Taliban regime in 2001, started last December in eight Afghan cities, and was extended across the country in the spring.

The response has been strong in the north, west and center of the country, where regional leaders have encouraged their supporters to sign up and hundreds of registration sites have already closed.

Ethnic rivalry in a country deeply scarred by years of infighting has also encouraged commu-

nities to make sure they are fully represented — including through their women, who account for 41 percent of registered voters.

Officials acknowledge cases of people registering more than once, but they say a dab of indelible ink on every voter's finger will limit fraud on polling day. Many underage Afghans also may have slipped through.

Still, registration teams will have to work more in the south and southeast, where a virulent Taliban insurgency threatens to decouple militant heartlands from the rest of the country.

At least nine people working to prepare the elections have been killed in attacks sometimes claimed by the Taliban, despite efforts by some 20,000 U.S.-led troops to protect the process.

Vatican: Feminism blurs differences for men, women

BY FRANCES D'EMILIO
The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican denounced feminism, saying it was trying to blur differences between men and women and threatening the institution of the family based on a mother and a father.

The drive for equality, the Vatican said, makes "homosexuality and heterosexuality virtually equivalent, in a new model of polymorphous sexuality."

The concerns, raised in a 37-page document written by one of Pope John Paul II's closest aides and released Saturday, broke no new ground, maintaining the Church's ban on women priests, for example.

But some observers said they feared how the document might be used.

Paul Lakeland, an expert on the Catholic Church who is a professor at Fairfield University in Connecticut, expressed concern that some language in the document could be used by church conservatives to condemn any form of advocacy for women.

The pamphlet by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the Vatican's orthodoxy watchdog, was published during a Vatican campaign to protect what it terms the Christian family.

Addressed to bishops worldwide, the document contended

More world stories
on Page 23

that new recent approaches to women's issues are marked by a tendency "to emphasize strongly conditions of subordination in order to give rise to antagonism: women, in order to be themselves, must make themselves the adversaries of men."

Throughout his 25 years as pope, John Paul has repeatedly expressed his admiration for women and their talents, and the document reflected that.

It said women should not be stigmatized or penalized financially for wanting to be homemakers. It also said women "should be present in the world of work and ... have access to positions of responsibility which allow them to inspire the politics of nations and to promote innovative solutions to economic and social problems."

The document also expressed the Vatican's concern that the blurring of differences between sexes could pose a challenge to church teaching, including the belief, in a reference to Christ, that "the Son of God assumed human nature in its male form."

"This document is welcome," said Riccardo Pedrizzi, who deals with family policy in the National Alliance, a right-wing party in Premier Silvio Berlusconi's conservative coalition.

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IN THE STATES

Financial buildings targets in terror threat

Ridge ups security level to orange for areas of D.C., N.Y.C. and Newark, N.J.

BY JENNIFER C. KERR

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The federal government warned Sunday of possible terrorist attacks against "financial institutions in New York City, Washington and Newark, N.J., saying a confluence of intelligence over the week-end pointed to a car or truck bomb.

Specifically, the government named these buildings as potential targets:

■ The Citicorp building and the New York Stock Exchange in New York City.

■ The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank buildings in Washington.

■ The Prudential building in Newark.

"The preferred means of attack would be car or truck bombs," Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said in a briefing with journalists. "That would be a primary means of attack."

The government said the new intelligence indicated the meticulous planning of al-Qaida.

Ridge said the government's threat level for financial institutions would be raised to orange, or high alert, but would remain at yellow, or elevated, elsewhere.

Ridge said it would be up to New York City officials to decide whether to move to the highest level, red. The city has remained on orange since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The secretary said the government took the unprecedented step of naming specific buildings because of the level of specificity of the intelligence. "This is not the usual chatter. This is multiple sources that involve extraordinary detail," Ridge said.

Ridge acknowledged that protecting these buildings, located in heavily populated areas, would require additional security measures, especially because thousands of cars and trucks travel through these cities daily.

"Car and truck bombs are one of the most difficult tasks we have in the war on terror," Ridge said.

The government provided a wealth of detail that it had picked up in the past 36 hours, but a senior intelligence official described it only on condition of anonymity. The official described "excruciating detail" and meticulous planning "indicative of al-Qaida."

The official said the intelligence included security in and around these buildings, the flow of pedestrians; the best places for reconnaissance; how to make contact with employees who work in the buildings; the construction of the buildings; pattern patterns; locations of hospitals and police departments; and which days of the week present less security at these buildings.

A White House spokeswoman, Erin Healy, said the intelligence on the threat is "very new, coming in during the last 72 hours."

"The president made the final decision today agreeing with the recommendation of Secretary Ridge to go ahead and raise the threat level in these select areas," Healy said.



Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge

Casino balcony collapses in Montana

POISON, Mont. — A balcony crowded with dozens of people at a popular bar and casino collapsed, injuring at least 70 people, officials said. There were no immediate reports of any deaths from the accident Friday night at the Diamond Horseshoe Casino.

Poison Fire Chief Tom Maloney said Saturday that seven of the injuries were serious or critical, but the others did not appear to be life-threatening. It was not immediately clear what caused the 14-foot-high balcony to collapse.

"Most of the victims appear to be young folks enjoying a night out," Maloney said.

An official at Poison's St. Joseph Hospital said 54 people were treated there for injuries sustained in the collapse, but declined to release any details on the extent of injuries.

Tiger escapes, tours Queens

NEW YORK — After escaping from the circus, a white tiger alarmed picnickers and motorists on what for him apparently was a calm, half-mile stroll through an unfamiliar urban jungle.

The animal, named Apollo, was safely recaptured Saturday in the Queens section of the city — but not before the sight of him on the Jackie Robinson Parkway caused a multi-car accident. Four adults and one child suffered minor injuries.

When the tiger lay down on a nearby street, six police officers with guns drawn created a perimeter around him, Capt. John Durkin said. The tiger's trainer arrived and coaxed him back into his cage.

The 7-year-old, 450-pound tiger is part of the Cole Bros. Circus that was performing in Forest Park.

Cruise ship runs aground in Aleutian Islands

UNALASKA, Alaska — The cruise ship Clipper Odyssey ran hard aground on rocks in the Aleutian Islands, forcing 153 passengers and crew to transfer to other ships and spilling an undetermined amount of fuel from a ruptured tank, the Coast Guard said.

No injuries were reported and the ship floated free with the tide early Sunday.

The accident at about 9:15 p.m. Saturday punctured both a 5,800-gallon fuel tank on the port side and a waste water tank, the Coast Guard said. The amount of fuel spill had not been determined, Lt. Asheley Bodkin said early Sunday.

Other vessels in the area, including fishing boats and a freighter, took 122 passengers and 31 crewmembers off the cruise ship and took them to the port of Unalaska, about 40 miles away, Bodkin said. Unalaska is about 800 air miles west of Anchorage.

South Carolina watches tropical storm

COLUMBIA, S.C. — A tropical storm warning was issued Sunday for the coastal Carolinas as the first tropical depression of the Atlantic hurricane season moved toward the coast with steady winds near 35 mph.

The rainy cloud system's poorly defined center was about 80 miles northeast of Charleston, S.C., according to the National Hurricane Center.

Hurricane center forecasters predicted a turn to the north, which would position the center of the depression near the South Carolina coastline later Sunday.

From wire reports

She takes the prize



RICHMOND (Va.) TIMES-DISPATCH/AP

Juliette Rizzo, of Rockville, Md., smiles at the audience Saturday after she was crowned Ms. Wheelchair America 2005 in Richmond, Va. Rizzo beat out contestants from 24 other states and the nation's capital for the right to represent the achievements of women with disabilities. Rizzo, 36, who works as director of communication and media for the U.S. Department of Education in the office of special education and rehabilitative services, will travel the country for a year as an advocate for more than 50 million Americans with disabilities.

Computer glitch grounds flights

BY SHEILA FLYNN

The Associated Press

DALLAS — A computer glitch grounded American Airlines and US Airways flights from coast to coast Sunday morning, causing delays that were expected to last all day.

American had its planes back up after two hours, while US Airways flights were grounded for about three hours.

Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman Diane Spitler said the FAA was alerted to the problem, and both carriers asked the FAA's air traffic controllers to help communicate with planes to keep them on the ground until the problems were fixed.

US Airways spokeswoman Amy Kudwa said the airline's flight-operation database malfunctioned, due to "an internal technology problem." A similar problem affected American's flight plan system, grounding about 150 flights, spokesman John Hotard said.

Both airlines use a computer system hosted by Plano-based Electronic Data Systems Corp. An EDS spokesman said an "extensive internal evaluation" was under way to determine what happened.

The problem forced US Airways, based in Arlington, Va., to delay about 100 flights. Fort Worth-based American planned to run its full daily schedule of 2,400 flights, but delays were expected.

Kerry says he'll get other nations to help in Iraq

Democrat says he would bring 'significant numbers of troops back within the first term'

BY NEDRA PICKLER

The Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio — Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry said he plans to use private negotiations to persuade other heads of state to assist in reconstructing Iraq, but he does not envision sending more U.S. troops there.

Kerry said on CBS' "Face the Nation" that a new president can make a "fresh start" with world leaders who opposed the war.

"If we demonstrate an America that has a foreign policy that is smarter, more engaged ... and more respectful of the world, we're going to bring people to our side," Kerry said. "We're not only not going to put additional troops there, that's the way to bring our troops home."

In a separate interview broadcast Sunday on CNN's "Late Edition," Kerry declined to specify a precise timetable for withdrawal.

ing the 140,000 U.S. troops in Iraq. But he did say, "I would consider it an unsuccessful policy if I hadn't brought significant numbers of troops back within the first term."

Kerry and running mate John Edwards did separate taped interviews with CBS, CNN, ABC and Fox, all of which were broadcast Sunday.

With Edwards sitting by his side, Kerry said on CBS that he is convinced a Kerry administration could get NATO involved in Iraq.

"We can make sure that other countries in the region — and this is critical — Iran, Syria, are not interfering with trying to establish a democratic Iraq and bring other countries like France and Germany and Russia to the reconstruction effort so that the Iraq economy can get off the ground and we can get some debt forgiveness," Edwards said.

Kerry said he has a plan to approach other world leaders, "and

I'm not negotiating it publicly."

Kerry also defended himself from President Bush's charge that the Democrat would raise taxes. Kerry said most Americans would get a tax cut under his plan.

"This administration has had a problem with truth for some period of time," Kerry said. Pressed on whether he is saying Bush lied, Kerry said he would never use that word.

Kerry also said he disagrees with lawmakers from both parties who are questioning the Sept. 11 commission's recommendation to create a Cabinet-level intelligence chief.

"I believe it belongs there and I'm very comfortable with that decision," Kerry said in the CBS interview. "... If you're really gonna lead a war on terror, I think it's critical to have the kind of direct accountability to the president, and I think the American people want that."



Democratic presidential candidate, Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, left, and his running mate, Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina, prepare for an interview Saturday with Bob Schieffer on CBS's "Face the Nation" in Greensburg, Pa. Kerry interviews ahead Sunday on all four networks.

On other topics:

■ On ABC's "This Week," Kerry added one exception to his promise not to raise taxes: Americans earning under \$200,000 a year. "War. Obviously a national emergency," he explained. "I'm talking about a national emergency beyond what we have today in

Iraq, if you have something extraordinary that happened."

■ "I absolutely guarantee you there will be Republicans in leading and helping" in a Kerry administration, he said on ABC. But he added he hadn't gotten to deciding exactly what positions Republicans might fill.

Messages of Support

★ Hang on in there Cory, Thinking and praying for your safe return, so that we will meet again soon. You will be welcomed with open arms in Great Britain, but especially mine. From your Welsh Maud Debbyxx

Messages of Support

★ hello , i wanna send each of them the message from me that to hang in there we are supporting u back here and praying at our church every sunday for our military men/woman, and that the pews will be safe and send them my prayers to, well i'm sending my love to the troops of america, that some day they will be home again with there families again, well send my prayers to all the usa troops, god bless our troops to, from T. Maxwell of Crawfordsville, IN



Alert! For Georgia Overseas Voters

Special provisions are in place to help you vote in the Aug. 10th Primary Runoff. Submit your ballot by fax, or via free UPS or Fed-Ex delivery. Deadlines for receipt of ballots have been extended.

For details, visit on the web the Ga. Secretary of State: www.sos.state.ga.us, or the Federal Voting Assistance Program: www.fvap.gov, or contact your Voting Assistance Officer.



President Bush waves to the crowd Saturday before giving a speech at a campaign stop in Cambridge, Ohio.

Bush, in Ohio, touts gun rights

BY RICK PEARSON

Chicago Tribune

CAMBRIDGE, Ohio — President Bush launched into an impassioned defense Saturday of gun-owner rights as he chastised what he said was Democratic nominee John Kerry's failure to understand heartland values.

"We stand for the Second Amendment, which gives every American the individual right to bear arms," Bush told several thousand people who filled a rain-soaked baseball infield in this southeastern Ohio community. "I've got a record on that issue. It stands in stark contrast to my opponent."

Bush's comments came on the final day of a two-day return to the campaign trail after the Democratic National Convention, which ended Thursday. The president was continuing his "Heart and Soul of America" tour, a monthlong string of thematic trips designed to mark a new chapter in the re-election battle. The aim, campaign strategists say, is to promote the incumbent's leadership and accomplishments while countering the unity the Democrats displayed for Bush in Boston last week.

Clusters of umbrella-carrying, flag- and sign-wav-

ing people watched the 30-vehicle Bush caravan Saturday under gray skies and an occasional heavy rain shower. Only a smattering of protesters turned out along the route, some of them gesturing with thumbs down and one outside Canton holding a sign that read "Bush Farewell Tour."

The president spoke to more than 5,500 supporters at the Canton Memorial Civic Center and later to several thousand others in Cambridge, where he introduced gun-owner rights to his speech on values.

En route to Pittsburgh later, Bush sought to amplify his attempt to appeal on the issue, stopping at a soon-to-open Cabela's outfitters store in suburban Wheeling, W. Va., that officials said will create 1,200 jobs and become West Virginia's top tourist attraction, with up to 6 million annual visitors.

The president greeted several hundred workers and said he appreciated the chance to visit because he liked to "hunt and fish."

Kerry aides accused the president of trying to twist the Democratic nominee's position on guns.

Kerry spokesman Phil Singer said that for the first time, the Democratic convention platform included pro-Second Amendment language because of Kerry.

OPINION

Liberals at least love energy Bush creates

BY MAX BOOT

The Democratic delegates in Boston tried hard to be as sober, moderate and unexciting as a case study at the Kennedy School of Government. They didn't want any unseemly emotion from the incumbent president to mar media coverage of their convocation. But if they were being honest, in their heart of hearts, they would have to admit ... they love George W. Bush.

Oh, I know they have a funny way of showing it. But remember how back in grade school, when a boy had a crush on a girl he would pull her pigtails? That's the Democrats and Dubya. Sure, they may compare the "suck" to Adolf Hitler—at least they do when they're not in Boston—but, admit it, fellows, you really like the big lug in the Oval Office.

Politics is pretty boring unless you can be on the front lines, combating the forces of evil. It's fun to ... imagine that you and your friends are the only thing preventing the dark night of fascism from descending. It's exciting to imagine that you are braving Überführer John Ashcroft's attempts to suppress dissent—especially when, unlike real dissidents in places like Burma and Iran, you don't face any actual danger.

It's fun, and profitable, too. The Democrats may be right when they say the Bush recovery has delivered most of its benefits to the "rich." What they're not mentioning is how many liberal barbers are now in that category, thanks to the president.

That hoary old Stalinist organ, the Nation, has seen circulation soar more than 50 per-

cent since Bush took office. It actually made a profit last year. Isn't that politically incorrect? Michael Moore is making out like Louis B. Mayer, raking in more than a hundred million smackers with a film ... that implies Bush invaded Afghanistan at the behest of Big Oil ...

Half the books on the ... bestseller list ... have titles like "Worse Than Ebola: The Bush Virus Infects America." Every two-bit leftist hack is picking up royalty checks that would make John Updike blush.

Naturally, when opportunity is in the air, Hollywood picks up the scent. Every C-list has-been—yes, that means you, Linda Ronstadt; you, too, Whoopi—is lining up to take a whack at the Bush pitfalls in hopes of landing a better gig than "Hollywood Squares."

If liberals want to know how good they have it these days, they should talk to some conservatives. The right can look back nostalgically on the Clinton presidency as a golden age when anyone with a conspiracy theory involving ... Arkansas could land a six-figure book deal and a radio show ...

And, then, wham!

The election of Bush was for conservative activists what the crash of 2000 was for high-tech investors. Crazy right-wing polemics have been elbowed off the sales charts by crazy left-wing polemics. Conservatives are left to grumble quietly about all the things that Bush has done to make them unhappy—from his unwillingness to invite Tom DeLay to grace prime time at the upcoming GOP convention to his willingness to spend your tax dollars as if he were running

MEANWHILE...BACK AT THE RANCH...

KERRY THROWS OUT THE FIRST PITCH AT RED SOX GAME...



JOHN KERRY/GETTY IMAGES

SIGH...IT'S GOING TO BE A LONG WEEK...



DANIEL OF THE NEWS

a dot-com circa 1999. But the right can't roar too loudly, because ... Bush is their guy.

The left may find itself in the same position before long. If John Kerry wins, he'll inherit a deficit large enough to preclude the social programs mandated by his base. Congress probably will be so divided that he won't be able to legislate much of anything. The United States still will have troops in Iraq that Kerry will be hard-pressed to remove, even though 95 percent of Democrat-

ic delegates say they oppose the war ...

Bottom line: Governing is a drag. It involves compromises and trade-offs that, to zealots, always seem to be sellouts. Protest is much more fun. If the partisans in Boston know what's good for them, they'll have the time of their lives hootin' and hollerin' about Bush, and then quietly vote to give the fascist four more years.

Max Boot is a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

U.S. troops overseas mustn't be restricted by ICC

BY GEORGE NETHERCUTT

The United Nations wants Americans serving abroad to be subject to the same courts and jurisdictions as terrorists, thugs and tyrants. That's wrong.

Three weeks ago, the U.N. Security Council dealt a blow to U.S. engagement around the world by opening the door to prosecution of U.S. troops in politically driven international courts. Specifically, the Security Council refused to renew an exemption for U.S. troops from prosecution by the International Criminal Court, creating an unacceptable risk of politically motivated legal action against Americans serving abroad.

Until now, the U.N. has exempted U.S. servicemen from the ICC to facilitate U.S. engagement around world and the war against terror. But now, with the exemption lapsed and an extension denied, the United States will be forced to limit international operations and partnerships to countries that have agreed not to turn over Americans to the ICC. Now is not the time to pull back—with al-Qaida on the defensive, it is essential that we press forward to eradicate the scourge of terrorism in all corners of the globe.

The ICC has the admirable goal of holding international criminals accountable. But in reality it has only supplanted domestic courts with the unchecked judgment of global bureaucrats. While it may be necessary to prosecute war criminals from nations without courts, the ICC is an affront to American sovereignty and good will.

The ICC would claim jurisdiction over U.S. citizens anywhere in the world, even though the United States is not a party to the

treaty and never agreed to the court's rule. The ICC charter nevertheless allows prosecutable prosecutors to pursue cases against Americans, even if the defendant had already been investigated and prosecuted by U.S. courts. The court lacks even the most basic checks and balances—the prosecutor does not report to any elected body or the U.S. Security Council.

Fears of potential political manipulation at a court intended to prosecute war criminals is not an academic exercise. Belgium has strikingly similar legislation on the books until last year, which led to lawsuits alleging that President George H.W. Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney and Secretary of State Colin Powell had committed war crimes.

When the president sends members of the armed forces on missions around the world, he asks them to uphold their oath to "support and defend the Constitution." But we equally expect that these personnel will not lose their constitutionally guaranteed rights

as a consequence of overseas service. As President Bush has said, every person who serves under the American flag will answer to his or her own superiors and to military law, not to the rulings of an unaccountable International Criminal Court.

The only option open to protect military personnel around the world is to accelerate the adoption of agreements to exempt our citizens from application of the ICC. More than 90 countries have signed these agreements, but there are still substantial gaps. [Late last month], lacking a Security Council exemption or Article 98 protection, the U.S. pulled out of peacekeeping missions in Kosovo and in Ethiopia and Eritrea.

The Armed Servicemen's Protection Act was enacted in 2002 as a tool to persuade nations that receive U.S. military assistance to sign Article 98 agreements. While the carrot-and-stick approach has persuaded many nations that these agreements are in our joint national interest, the Security Council's reluctance has increased the ur-

gency of bringing more nations on board. That's why I fought to broaden the application of ASPA to nations that also receive Economic Support Fund assistance.

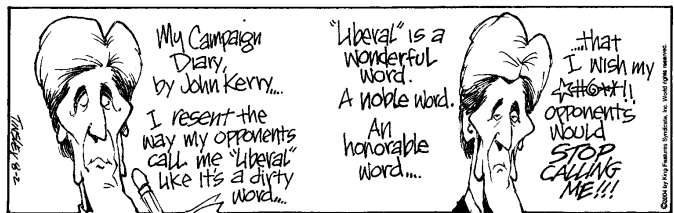
Economic aid is an important tool to promote American interests abroad, and nothing is more essential than safeguarding our troops overseas. It is reasonable to expect that countries receiving millions in [U.S.] taxpayer assistance will agree to sign Article 98 agreements.

This enhancement of ASPA was adopted by a broad, bipartisan majority in the House of Representatives, sending a clear signal to the Security Council that Congress will step in to protect members of the armed forces. That's why I fought to broaden the application of ASPA to nations that also receive Economic Support Fund assistance. But now U.S. troops will not be protected until the Senate and Administration follow suit. This issue cannot wait in beltway gridlock. Americans serving overseas have enough enemies, even without unaccountable prosecutors and politically motivated international courts.

Rep. George Nethercutt, R-Wash., is vice chairman of the House defense appropriations subcommittee.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



Cries of censorship

CO DENVER — Two pieces of art, including a suitcase with a handle made from a box cutter, were removed from Denver International Airport after employees complained.

The art was part of an exhibit called "The Luggage Project" in which artists from around the world were asked to turn suitcases into art.

The other piece removed from the airport was a suitcase with an attached bumper sticker reading "Blood for oil. Billionaires for Bush," a reference to a satirical group critical of President Bush.

Madeline Hatz, who created the second suitcase, said she was trying to link the spilling of blood and oil. She complained that she was being censored.

"Art is controversial, and we have a right to freedom of speech," she said.

Aviation co-manager Vicki Brannan said she removed the pieces July 9, the same day the 43-piece, glass-enclosed exhibit opened on a walkway that comes before the security screening area.

Six employees complained, and Brannan said the art was "inappropriate." The terrorists who carried out the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks took control of the flights after threatening passengers with box cutters.

Close call for child

FL WEST MELBOURNE — A 7-year-old boy fell on an arrow, and was impaled in the neck, narrowly missing his jugular vein, officials said.

The father of the boy, whose name was not released, drove him 30 miles to a fire station for help. The boy was hospitalized in stable condition after the accident and was expected to survive, the Osceola County Sheriff's Office said.

The boy fell while holding the arrow and playing in his back yard in rural central Florida, his father told paramedics.

After piercing his neck near the jugular vein, the arrow nearly passed all the way through to the boy's spine, said Lt. Dave Hover of the Brevard County Fire Rescue's Station where the boy went for emergency treatment.

Firefighters cut about 6 inches off the arrow so he could be flown to an Orlando hospital.

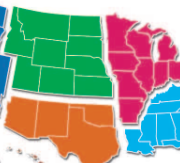
Med school in hot seat

IL CHICAGO — A group of 52 breast cancer patients has sued a medical school for canceling an experimental vaccine program that some claim has kept them alive.

Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science discontinued the study early this year because it has shown no clinical benefit to patients, said Nabih Ramadan, the North Chicago school's vice president for clinical and external affairs.

"We feel at risk because we've depended upon this vaccine for so long and found it to be very effective," said 81-year-old Catherine Moloney of Northbrook, who started taking the vaccine in 1991. "We just feel abandoned and we want our vaccine."

The lawsuit claims patients signed consent forms stating the treatment, aimed at boosting the body's immune system, would continue "ad infinitum," or for the rest of their lives.



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Ramadan said that the term "ad infinitum" referred only to the life of the patients while they participated in the study, which was subject to termination.

The patients' lawsuit contends the university violated medical ethics and breached contracts. The lawsuit asks the court to grant patients access to the remaining vaccine. It also seeks unspecified damages for emotional injury and stress.

A circuit court judge ordered the school to preserve all records and clinical samples from the vaccine program, according to plaintiffs' attorney Thomas Cronin.

Neck-hold ban

TX DALLAS — After months of protest from civil rights groups, Police Chief David Kunkle has banned the department's use of a neck hold that contributed to a man's death last year.

Kunkle said he plans to brief Dallas City Council members on his decision and ask them to buy 400 Tasers, a type of electrical stun gun.

The chief's briefing paper to the council said the neck hold is "difficult to apply in field conditions" and officers may not know about suspects' pre-existing medical conditions.

The Rev. L. Charles Stovall of the Unified Organizations for Justice, an activist coalition, welcomed the ban.

"This is something that needed to be done, and it's something that we rejoice is happening," Stovall said.

But Cpl. George Aranda, president of the Latino Peace Officers Association, criticized Kunkle's de-

cision. "To ban a tool that has been effective for so many years due to community pressure is an insult to our Dallas officers," Aranda told The Dallas Morning News. "I think with some updated training and better techniques, we could have saved this tool."

Slicing gas tax

FL TALLAHASSEE — The state's gas tax cut goes into effect and will last through August, cutting the cost by eight cents less a gallon. It's designed to help small business and tourism in a time of skyrocketing fuel prices. The tax break applies to all grades of fuel sold at the pump, except diesel.

Early grape harvest

CA SANTA BARBARA — The wine grape harvest will begin a week or two ahead of the usual September crush in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties because of warmer-than-normal weather. The harvest will likely begin on a wide scale in mid-to-late August.

Grape quantity is expected to be about normal, with a surplus still a problem for the industry. Quality remains high.

HMO contracts

MI LANSING — The state has awarded contracts to 17 health maintenance organizations to provide \$2 billion in care to 900,000 poor and disabled people covered by Medicaid. The state has been struggling to cover its share of the cost of health care for the poor in a period of rising medical spending and growing budget deficits. Michigan last conducted bids for Medicaid HMOs in 2000.

West Nile spreads

UT SALT LAKE CITY — A northern Utah resident was diagnosed with the state's first human case of West Nile virus this year, health officials said. The victim was exposed in both Arizona and Utah. This year, Arizona has been hit harder than any other state in the United States, with 163 human infections and two deaths.

Got shelter?

WV CHARLESTON — The Federal Emergency Management Agency is appealing to property owners in its search for land to set up temporary housing for flood victims. The agency wants to lease parcels in the Logan and Lenore areas, rent-free, for two years.

Coordinating officer Lou Botta says FEMA needs property owners' help because it's exhausted all other options.

Sales-tax holiday

DC WASHINGTON — The city is gearing up for another sales-tax holiday. Between Aug. 7 and Aug. 15, Washington will waive the tax on school supplies, clothes, shoes and accessories, as long as each item costs no more than \$100. Councilwoman Carol Schwartz, R-At-Large, pushed through a measure making the sales tax break an annual event. It's timed to coincide with back-to-school shopping, but the savings are available to anyone.



Hoofing it

Brannon Bartlett gets dragged by a bull after being bucked off at the Frontier Days Rodeo in Cheyenne, Wyo. Bartlett eventually escaped his unlucky predicament but got no free ride for his trouble.



More water damage

Tony Griffin of the Department of General Services in Richmond, Va., peels paint from the walls in the gallery of the House chambers at the State Capitol. Heavy rains cascaded worsening woes for the building.



Castaway

Lone fisherman Leo Issa casts his line along the shore in Delray Beach, Fla., as clouds hover over the Atlantic Ocean.



Head above water

Chason Norris, 21, does a handstand while skimboarding along the Gulf of Mexico on Okaloosa Island, Fla.



It's C-O-W-B-O-Y-S Dallas Cowboys cheerleader Christine Chancellor teaches dozens of children attending the Dallas Cowboys' Cheerleaders Cheer Camp at the Oxnard High School in Oxnard, Calif.



Sign of the times Sherelle Purnell, 18, of Salisbury, Md., walks along Route 13 in front of the Tiger Mart gas station in Salisbury. On April 4, Purnell filled her car with gas and drove away, without paying, according to court records.



Big gups The nose of a humpback whale breaks the ocean surface as it goes after a school of fish off Sandbridge beach in Virginia Beach, Va., startling kayaker Joe Bell, of Chesapeake, Va.

\$45,000 settlement

TX HUMANSVILLE — A settlement was reached in a federal lawsuit over the display of the Ten Commandments in a southwest Missouri school. Carrie Root filed suit this year claiming the Ten Commandments plaque in the school cafeteria violated the constitutional separation of church and state.

The Humansville School District agreed to pay Root \$45,000 and to refrain from displaying religious symbols.

Bioterrorism planning

NH CONCORD — Gov. Craig Benson and the state's Executive Council approved nine contracts for \$2.3 million in federal grants for bioterrorism planning after the nine groups receiving the money agreed to work together.

Benson had delayed approval to review the contracts and determine whether the funds were being spent efficiently.

He said he found no abuses.

Pills on demand

AL MONTGOMERY — State public health officials say they don't plan to stop distribution of emergency contraceptives, also called "morning after pills," at family planning clinics.

Health officials have been criticized by anti-abortion and Christian right groups since clinic workers began distributing the pills earlier this year.

Federal officials say the clinic isn't required to distribute the emergency contraceptives.

Inmate swim a problem

ME CAMDEN — Letting a crew of four inmate laborers working at a state park take a swim after work has landed the work-release program in hot water.

The crew has been suspended and the program could be in jeopardy after park manager Bill Elliot let four inmates swim in Lake Chickawaukie in Rockland.

For more than 20 years, Elliot has used minimum-security prisoners for work around Peaks-Kenny State Park on Sebek Lake and at Camden Hills State Park.

He estimates he has supervised 8,000 hours of prison labor without a problem.

But on the afternoon of July 21, Elliot and a sergeant from the prison were driving the inmates back to the Warren lockup when they stopped along Route 17 to let the inmates have a quick swim.

"It was an 80-degree day," Elliot said, "and the guys were on the roof," working on a picnic pavilion at the park for about 10 hours.

While the swim was brief, some feel it mingled inmates with the general public.

Corrections officials said the public wasn't at risk, but the incident could prove to be a public relations problem for the restitution program, which allows minimum-security prisoners nearing release to work outside the prison.

Warden Jeffrey Merrill was on vacation when the prisoners were allowed to swim, but a deputy warden

suspended the crew from further work outside the prison.

Elliot said the rules were unclear, and that he would never have let the prisoners swim if he knew it was prohibited.

He has let prisoners take short swim breaks at the park in the past, but he promised never to allow it again.

Protest of denim ban

TN DECATUR — Parents in rural Meigs County are organizing a protest against a school dress code that bans denim.

The new rules were adopted in the spring, but few parents were aware of them until this month.

School board member Jeremy Bivens, who voted against the change, said many people in the county wear jeans.

Father forgets child

FL INVERNESS — An infant died in her father's car after he mistakenly left her there for hours outside his office, authorities said.

Edward Hynes went to work at an Inverness carpet cleaning company about 7 a.m., forgetting that his daughter, McKenzie, was in his car, said Gail Tierney, spokeswoman for the Citrus County sheriff's office.

The girl's mother called Hynes just before 3 p.m. and asked why the baby wasn't at day care, investigators said.

Emergency workers were called but could not revive the child; her body temperature registered 106 degrees, sheriff's officials told the St. Petersburg Times.

The investigation was continuing, Tierney said.

She said the father was so distraught he could not be interviewed and was taken to a hospital for treatment, she said.

Inverness is about 60 miles north of Tampa.

On July 15 in Boca Raton, a 3-year-old boy died after his father mistakenly left him in his car for about three hours.

The father has been charged with aggravated manslaughter of a child.

Uninsured workers

CT HARTFORD — A survey of hundreds of small companies in Connecticut found that nearly 40 percent of the businesses' employees aren't given health insurance coverage.

Many companies said they didn't offer insurance because of cost. The survey was part of a state Office of Health Care Access project to expand employer-sponsored health coverage.

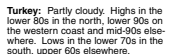
Buttering up fairgoers

IA DES MOINES — A butter birthday cake and a butter barn will join the butter cow at the Iowa State Fair this year.

Norma "Duffy" Lyon is sculpting a giant three-layer birthday cake to celebrate the fair's 150th anniversary.

Lyon also is sculpting a small dairy barn. The fair has had a butter cow every year since 1911.

Stories and photos from news wires



COLD			WARM		STATIONARY	
Flurries	Snow	Ice	Sunny	Pt. Cloudy	Cloudy	

STARS AND STRIPES

FACES 'N' PLACES

Paris Hilton leaves lasting mark on ex

Paris Hilton left a permanent impression on ex-boyfriend Nick Carter... literally.

When the couple got tattoos together three weeks before their July 22 breakup, **Backstreet Boy** Carter, 24, got "Paris" tattooed on his wrist. People magazine reports. Carter wouldn't say what Hilton had tattooed, but the pop star says he's harboring no regrets about the untimely ink: "No (I don't regret it) because I love her. She'll have a place in my heart, always."

Hilton, 23, is speaking about the breakup as well. The hotel heiress-reality TV star told *Us Weekly* she decided to end it while having her makeup done at a photo shoot in New York... but only after getting her psychic's opinion.

"She thought I should be alone, and I agreed with her," Hilton said.



Hilton

Actress Alley happy with her appearance

Kirstie Alley has pulled a switch-a-roo on the tabloids. After many photographs splashed in different celebrity magazines documented her noticeable weight gain, the former "Cheers" actress is going on the offensive.

With her new Showtime show, "Fat Actress," to begin filming this fall, Alley is by no means shirking the attention to her weight problem. But that's not to say she's happy with her appearance.

In New York, Alley told People magazine: "The weird thing is, I don't like the way I look -- and I like who I am. I like who I am better than I've ever liked myself."

The 53-year-old actress says that her weight is 203 pounds, not the frequently cited 300 pounds. Still, she completely accepts responsibility for her situation.

"I don't consider fat a disease. I mean, c'mon, who had the (expletive) gun to my head? Nobody! What gene in my body says I have to eat four cakes instead of two? It's a choice."

Shark thrills in film all too real

Old Jaws is looking more fake all the time.

In the new thriller "Open Water," a couple who is scuba diving far off the Bahamas surface after being submerged for 40 minutes to find themselves abandoned by their dive boat. The real panic sets in when sharks start circling.

And the sharks are real. Producer Laura Lau said at the film's Los Angeles premiere: "Working with real sharks and not working with computer-generated effects or animatronics was really important to us because we were shooting digital video. We knew that it would impart a sense of realism."

Careful measures were taken for the actors' safety. Daniel Travis and Blanchard Ryan were protective chain mail under their wet suits, and bloody chunks of tuna were tossed into the water to manipulate the sharks' movement.

"We hired a shark wrangler who really understood how the sharks would behave," said Lau. The sharks, mostly gray reef sharks averaging 7 feet to 11 feet in length, numbered between 45 and 50.

McCartney honors The Beatles

McCartney honors The Beatles

Paul McCartney awarded honorary rock 'n' roll diplomas to members of '70s girl group The Bangles at his Liverpool, England, art school.

McCartney made the band honorary companions of the Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts during a ceremony Friday attended by Bangles Michael Steele and Vicki Peterson.

In a statement, the band members said they were "honored and grateful to accept companionship from this historic institution, and as longtime Beatles fans, are absolutely delighted at the involvement of Sir Paul, and to receive our rock and roll 'diplomas' from the great man himself."

Past companions -- the equivalent of an honorary degree -- have gone to singer Jon Armatradung and former Sex Pistols manager Malcolm McLaren.



McCartney



Country music newcomer Gretchen Wilson speaks July 21 during a news conference held at the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville, Tenn. Wilson's debut single, "Redneck Woman," spent a record six weeks at No. 1.

'Redneck Woman'

Gretchen Wilson says her debut single is an anthem about being true to yourself

BY JOHN GEROME

The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. German, country singer Gretchen Wilson learned during her recent overseas tour.

Wilson, whose debut single "Redneck Woman" spent a record six weeks at No. 1, visited four countries in 10 days this month -- Australia, United Kingdom, Sweden and Germany. The most common question from foreign reporters: "So what is a redneck?"

"I'd start out in the morning by giving full details, saying a redneck is a person who lives their life without the best of everything but knows how to live well with what they've got," Wilson said. "But by the end of the day, I'd just go, 'Well, a redneck is kind of like a hillbilly. Next question.'"

A defiant, beer-swilling anthem, "Redneck Woman" takes up the tone of Charlie Daniels' "Long Haired Country Boy" and Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Sweet Home Alabama." It's woven with lines declaring white trash pride, "Some people look down on me but I don't give a rip/I'll stand barefooted in my own front yard with a baby on my hip."

Dressed in blue jeans and silver hoop earrings, the 31-year-old singer says the song has less to do with poor, white rural Southerners than the title suggests.

"It's not so much the redneck anthem as it is the be-true-to-yourself anthem," she said. "Don't worry about what people want to label you, as long as you're happy with yourself."

It's a way of life, really."

It's a way of life, really. The daughter of a teenage mother, she dropped out of school in eighth grade and was cooking and tending bar with her mom at Big O's tavern in rural Pocahontas, Ill., 36 miles east of St. Louis, by the time she was 14. By 15 she was living on

her own and managing the bar with a 12-gauge shotgun for protection.

She started singing for tips at Big O's and from there performed in cover bands in St. Louis.

Wilson moved to Nashville in 1996 and tended bar in Printers Alley while trying to build a music career. She became a regular member of the Muzik Mafia, a loose-knit group of singers, songwriters and musicians who get together to jam every Tuesday, and then signed with Sony Music Nashville in August 2003.

Her debut album, "Here For the Party," has sold 2 million copies after only 10 weeks on the chart, helping reverse a slump in country music sales and a dearth in female country chart-toppers.

"We have broken all sorts of records because we had the good sense to follow a groundbreaking artist, which should be a cardinal rule in the record business," said Sony Music Nashville President John Grady.

Wilson co-wrote six of the 12 songs, including the title track now released as her second single and climbing the Billboard chart.

It's another hard-charging anthem with a strong female perspective, with the line, "I wear my jeans a little tight just to watch the little boys come undone."

"I've got a lot of Southern rock influences in my life," she said. "I knew I wanted to have a track on my album that was heavy, really kickin'."

Terri Clark, a country singer also known for her rowdy edge, said Wilson's authenticity is refreshing.

"That's what I love about Gretchen doing so well," said Clark, who surprised Wilson the night of her Grand Ole Opry debut last May with a case of Jim Beam whiskey and Skoal chewing tobacco. "She is who she is. She's not changing or conforming for anybody."

Wilson is still trying to comprehend her meteoric rise. She says her family and friends are documenting everything for her so "some day when I'm an old lady I can look back and say 'Look what I did.'"

And her 3-year-old daughter, Grace, helps keep her grounded.

"I don't know how much of this she really understands," said Wilson, a single mother. "I know she knows mommy is on TV, and I know she knows I'm a country singer. She sees me on TV and she thinks it's great. But she also thinks Shrek is coming over tomorrow."

Horoscope

The wise Pisces moon gives a moodily glow to this high-energy, unpredictable day — when surprising events happen, it's as though they're occurring in a mystical fog that makes them all the more dramatic. The Leo sun seems to design the picturesque scenarios so they'll fit nicely into the storytelling session that goes on tonight.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

(August 2) You're primed for action this year, and you get plenty of that, especially in the next seven weeks. Your career is taking off. Singles make a romantic commitment in September. Scorpio and Cancer are good matches. See different parts of the world in October. Appreciation and acclaim in November are followed by a financial bump up.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's a discrepancy between the way you see yourself and the way the rest of the world sees you. You'll be trying to close the gap by getting more objective, more realistic and less concerned about what people think.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

As much as you'd like to go blithely ahead, clouds creep in. At least you can be assured that everybody has them. If you articulate your worries specifically, you'll be able to create clear-cut remedies to oppose your fear.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

You'll be untiringly witty in a way that brings you financial gain. Work tip: Find out everything that is expected of you. To help feel confident about your ability to the job because you know what it is, and what is not, expected of you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

If you're on the low side, it's probably because you're getting worn by the characteristics of the modern workplace. Working in a dimly lit office or performing the same task over and over again will finally get on your nerves.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

That reward system you used to create for yourself has been neglected too

long — it's time to reinstate it.

Having too few rewards in your life has been cited as a cause for depression. Spoiling yourself isn't such a bad idea after all.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

Feelings of being overwhelmed are part of the adventure, but you can beat them. Build your confidence, bit by bit. Your problems can't be solved in a day — break them into smaller steps, ones that you can easily succeed at.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

You've got the courage to act in spite of your fears. But try to relax. Chances are, you're making more of this in your mind. Love relationships provide a naive thrill — you'll feel like you did back in grade school.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

Taking love to the next level is the main idea, as the stars stir up a need for more intimate connections.

Competition only serves to rev your engine! "Bring it on!" you'll say, even though your insides shake like jelly. Good for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).

You're striving for an elusive idea today, but you'll get further by not striving. What's missing is a sense of playfulness and fun. Without that, your efforts become draining and meaningless.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

It's satisfying to take steps, however small, toward accomplishing dreams but surprisingly unfulfilling to talk about it too much. Keep things close to the vest, and let the tension build.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

You exude joyalty and go about your day interacting with others a polite and cooperative mood. For this reason, you'll be chosen to receive a shocking privilege. Tonight, zero in on someone you like a great deal.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

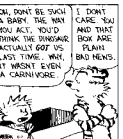
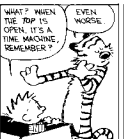
You attract classy people and possessions because you show the world you know how to take care of what is yours. Others also gift you with gems of wisdom, but you only believe what your own experience dictates.

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillson



Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red Rover



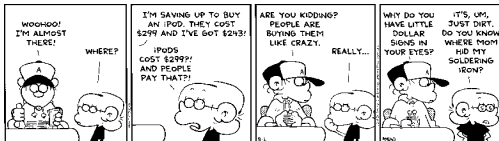
Better or Worse



Peanuts



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



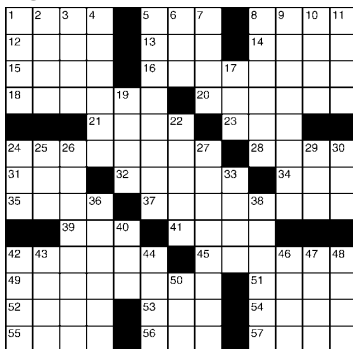
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Bridge
5 Whiggy product
8 Capri, e.g.
12 Yield by treaty
13 — pinch
14 Neet rival
15 Speedy steed
16 Cheaply
18 Big ruckus
20 Thin pancakes
21 Ollum
23 Nipper's employer
24 Figure of speech
28 Sousaphone
31 Parisian pal
32 Strength
34 Legislation
35 Courage
37 Captain Corcoran's ship
39 Larry's cohort
41 Advantage
42 Decorates
45 More apt to frighten
49 Very favorable, as a review
51 Peregrinate
52 Basilica area
53 Candle count
54 Rams' ma'am's
- 55 Audio-cassette, part
56 George Burns role
57 Mini-pie
- 24 Periodical, briefly
25 Down Under bird
26 Chickadee's cousin
27 Made
29 Prohibit
30 Idolater's emotion
33 Carry on
36 Brownish orange
38 Search (out)
40 USNA grad
42 From a distance
43 Nitwit
45 Unscorced
46 Ottumwa is there
47 Till the end of time
48 Take 10
50 Past

Down

- 1 Ella's specialty
2 Machu Picchu locale
3 Eden evictue
4 Space cloud
5 Airport business, often
6 Important numero
7 Painter Chagall
8 Bug
9 Brazilian city
10 Queue
11 Work units
17 Timetable abbr.
19 Reindeer herder, probably
22 Footballer/actor

Answer to Previous Puzzle



8-2

CRYPTOQUIP

M EPQQ V LYSQP QSC
LYMQP M MKP-DFVCBP.
M DAJJSDP M LVD ST CYP

NMTF SE BPDCKNAKCMST!
Saturday's Cryptoquip: I IMAGINE A REALLY GOOD-LOOKING BARBARIAN GUY MIGHT BE NAMED ATTLA THE HUNK.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals L



Italian Carabinieri officers block access to the shootout scene where Luciano Liboni, the suspected killer of a policeman, was mortally wounded Saturday near Rome's Circus Maximus, capping a 10-day manhunt. Police shot Liboni after he fired at police and took a French tourist hostage.

10-day hunt for suspected killer ends with fatal gunfire in Rome

BY FRANCES D'EMILIO

The Associated Press

ROME — A 10-day manhunt for the suspected killer of a policeman ended in bloodshed before horrified tourists in central Rome, where the fugitive grabbed a Frenchwoman at gunpoint before he was mortally wounded in a shootout with police, officers and witnesses said.

"What does it matter, I'm already dead, I'll kill her," Luciano Liboni yelled as police demanded he surrender outside a subway entrance Saturday, according to Carabinieri paramilitary police. The woman was unharmful.

Liboni, suspected of killing a policeman July 22, had been spotted Saturday morning and surrounded by police near the Circus Maximus, an ancient Roman field that

is a major tourist attraction in Rome.

"Our man fired at Liboni, the lady instinctively dropped to the ground," Maj. Attilio Auricchio was quoted as saying by the Italian news agency Apcom. "Her husband feared for his wife's life, but she got up right away, running toward her children."

Private TG5 TV news showed the woman, looking shaken, being taken away in a police car. A few yards away, a puddle of blood stained the pavement. On the ground was a black knapsack, which police said was Liboni's. It contained \$40,000, which police said they suspected came from robberies, and eight pairs of eyeglasses, which investigators said Liboni kept to change his appearance in a bid to avoid capture.

A few hours after the shootout,

Liboni died of head wounds at San Giovanni hospital, where he had undergone surgery, surgeon Stefano Esposito told reporters.

Top Carabinieri officers at a news conference said Liboni fired five shots from his revolver at police near the subway entrance, and one of the two motorcycle police who had cornered him fired three shots at the fugitive.

A Roman woman, walking near Piazza Venezia in the heart of the Italian capital, had told police a few minutes earlier that she thought she had recognized Liboni heading toward Circus Maximus, a grassy field where the ancient Romans ran chariot races.

Liboni's ability to strike and flee earned him the nickname "The Wolf." He had been on the run for two years. Before the slaying of the policeman, he had been wanted for other shootings, and he had a record of robberies.



War Is Tough on Families

Military life has enough challenges without worrying about how your loved ones will contact you... especially during times of conflict. I know, because I grew up in a military family and served as a Navy Admiral.

You can count on the American Red Cross to help you wherever you go. Whether you're at sea, or on an installation, we can help your loved ones back home get messages to you, or from you, in case of emergency. We can also help you through counseling and other needed assistance.

The Red Cross was there for my family, and we'll be there for yours. In fact, we support thousands of military families each year.

For more information, or to learn how you can help, please contact your local Red Cross or visit www.redcross.org. Thank you.

Marsha Evans

Marsha Evans
President and CEO, American Red Cross
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)



American Red Cross

Together, we can save a life

18 wounded in Prague bombing

PRAGUE, Czech Republic — A bomb targeting a casino owner exploded under a car on a busy restaurant street in the Czech capital Sunday, injuring at least 18 people, including two Americans, in what authorities described as a probable gangland attack.

The incident was being investigated as an attempted murder, and authorities have "ruled out" terrorism, she said.

Kuwait bans 'Fahrenheit 9/11'

KUWAIT CITY — Kuwait, a major U.S. ally in the Gulf, has banned Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11" because it deems the movie insulting to the Saudi Arabian royal family and critical of America's invasion of Iraq, an official said Sunday.

A spokesman at the Kuwait Information Ministry said the film "insulted the Saudi royal family by saying they had common interests with the Bush family and that those interests contradicted with the interests of the American people."

Berlin Olympic Stadium reopens

BERLIN — Berlin's renovated Olympic Stadium was inaugurated Saturday, with fireworks and an appearance by the granddaughter of 1936 Berlin Olympics legend Jesse Owens marking the transformation of the Nazi-era colossus into a modern sporting arena.

Athletes ranging from pole-vaulters to soccer players symbolically took possession of the stadium, originally built on Adolf Hitler's orders for the 1936 Games, as fireworks lit up the playing field under the building's sleek new roof.

Israel tries to stop Jordan arms deal

JERUSALEM — Israel is trying to prevent an arms deal that would put high-tech U.S.-made air-to-air missiles on Jordanian aircraft, Israeli government and security officials said Sunday.

Israel has asked Congress to delay approval of the deal, which is already in advanced stages.

From wire reports

SCOREBOARD

AFN schedule

All times Central European. AFN-A: Afghanistan; PAC: Pacific/Africa/Korea; SEA: Southeast Asia; DEL: Delaware; 90-minute cut-down. Listings are latest available. All times are subject to change without notice.

Baseball — Television

AFL vs. Arizona — Tuesday night, 8 p.m. Wednesday, 1 p.m. Wednesday, 4 a.m. (D) SP.

Football — NFL: 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, 1 p.m. (D) SP. 4:30 p.m. (D) SP.

Go — Battle at the Bridges, Tiger Woods and Hank Kuehne vs. Phil Mickelson and John Daly, 2 p.m. Tuesday, (D) SP.

Baseball — New York Yankees vs. Tampa Bay, 9 p.m. Tuesday, (D) SP; PFM Super-90 of Great Britain, 8 a.m. Tuesday, (D) SP; NHL: From Montreal, 6 a.m. Tuesday, (D) SP.

Tennis — At Auto Masters Series Canada: championship, 3:30 p.m. Monday, (D) SP. At Pikes Peak International Raceway, 2:30 a.m. Wednesday, 1 p.m. Wednesday, 4 a.m. (D) SP.

Baseball — 2004 X Games X: Preview Show, 6 p.m. Monday and 4 p.m. Tuesday (D) SP.

AFN-Europe can be reached at 05N 320-4444 or German op. 09-159-88-88. Commercial carriers from outside Germany must drop out initial area code. AFN-Africa's Web site is www.afn-africa.com. Click on "television" or "radio" for broadcast schedules. AFN parent organization, AFRTS at March Airfield, 3300 Main St., is reached at 05N 320-4444 or 05N 320-4444. Its Web site is www.afn-africa.com.

Auto racing

NASCAR Busch Series

Salute to the Troops 250

Saturday
At Pikes Peak International Raceway
Fountain, Colo.

Length: 1 mile
(Start position in parentheses)

(1) (25) Greg Biffle, Ford, 250 laps, \$47,835.

(2) (2) Stacy Compton, Ford, 250, \$69,420.

(3) (10) Jason Leffler, Chevrolet, 250, \$46,630.

(4) (26) Clint Bowyer, Chevrolet, 250, \$30,610.

(5) (13) Martin Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 250, \$34,150.

(6) (15) Mike Wallace, Chevrolet, 250, \$32,730.

(7) (8) David Green, Chevrolet, 250, \$34,000.

(8) (24) Casey Atwood, Chevrolet, 250, \$27,075.

(9) (5) Bobby Hamilton Jr., Ford, 250, \$33,610.

(10) (31) Ron Hornaday Jr., Chevrolet, 250, \$22,690.

(11) (24) Paul Menard, Chevrolet, 250, \$22,690.

(12) (6) Jason Keller, Ford, 250, \$30,230.

(13) (4) Kenny Wallace, Chevrolet, 250, \$22,690.

(14) (5) Regan Smith, Chevrolet, 249, \$15,220.

(15) (30) Tony Raines, Chevrolet, 249, \$15,220.

(16) (2) Kyle Busch, Chevrolet, 248, \$27,620.

(17) (18) Ashton Lewis Jr., Chevrolet, 247, \$15,220.

(18) (7) Brett Presley, Ford, 247, \$21,870.

(19) (20) Shane Hall, Chevrolet, 247, \$15,220.

(20) (1) Hermie Sadler, Chevrolet, 246, \$21,870.

(21) (16) Travis Gelsler, Chevrolet, 246, \$15,220.

(22) (4) Mike Wallace, Ford, 245, \$27,175.

(23) (34) Randy Mamula, Chevrolet, 238, \$19,200.

Baseball

Winners' average: 107.181 mph.
Pitchers' average: 2.730, 2.730, 2.730, 2.730.

Cannon Fights for 151 seconds.
Lead changes 10 among 6 drivers.

151 (25) Greg Biffle, Ford, 250 laps, \$47,835.
152 (2) Stacy Compton, Ford, 250, \$69,420.

153 (10) Jason Leffler, Chevrolet, 250, \$46,630.
154 (26) Clint Bowyer, Chevrolet, 250, \$30,610.

155 (13) Martin Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 250, \$34,150.
156 (15) Mike Wallace, Chevrolet, 250, \$32,730.

157 (8) David Green, Chevrolet, 250, \$34,000.
158 (24) Casey Atwood, Chevrolet, 250, \$27,075.

159 (5) Bobby Hamilton Jr., Ford, 250, \$33,610.
160 (31) Ron Hornaday Jr., Chevrolet, 250, \$22,690.

161 (24) Paul Menard, Chevrolet, 250, \$22,690.
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171 (16) Travis Gelsler, Chevrolet, 246, \$15,220.
172 (4) Mike Wallace, Ford, 245, \$27,175.

173 (34) Randy Mamula, Chevrolet, 238, \$19,200.
174 (12) Tim Fedewa, Chevrolet, 211, engine failure, \$21,095.

175 (14) Tim Gordon, Ford, 210, slow, \$19,025.

176 (27) Jeff Walker, Dodge, 210, 8 a.m. engine failure, \$15,670.

177 (44) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,680.

178 (4) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,670.

179 (44) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,670.

180 (44) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,670.

181 (44) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,670.

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183 (44) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,670.

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203 (44) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,670.

204 (44) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,670.

205 (44) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,670.

Baseball

Winners' average: 107.181 mph.
Pitchers' average: 2.730, 2.730, 2.730, 2.730.

Cannon Fights for 151 seconds.
Lead changes 10 among 6 drivers.

151 (25) Greg Biffle, Ford, 250 laps, \$47,835.
152 (2) Stacy Compton, Ford, 250, \$69,420.

153 (10) Jason Leffler, Chevrolet, 250, \$46,630.
154 (26) Clint Bowyer, Chevrolet, 250, \$30,610.

155 (13) Martin Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 250, \$34,150.
156 (15) Mike Wallace, Chevrolet, 250, \$32,730.

157 (8) David Green, Chevrolet, 250, \$34,000.
158 (24) Casey Atwood, Chevrolet, 250, \$27,075.

159 (5) Bobby Hamilton Jr., Ford, 250, \$33,610.
160 (31) Ron Hornaday Jr., Chevrolet, 250, \$22,690.

161 (24) Paul Menard, Chevrolet, 250, \$22,690.
162 (6) Jason Keller, Ford, 250, \$30,230.

163 (4) Kenny Wallace, Chevrolet, 250, \$22,690.
164 (5) Regan Smith, Chevrolet, 249, \$15,220.

165 (30) Tony Raines, Chevrolet, 249, \$15,220.
166 (2) Kyle Busch, Chevrolet, 248, \$27,620.

167 (18) Ashton Lewis Jr., Chevrolet, 247, \$15,220.
168 (7) Brett Presley, Ford, 247, \$21,870.

169 (20) Shane Hall, Chevrolet, 247, \$15,220.
170 (1) Hermie Sadler, Chevrolet, 246, \$21,870.

171 (16) Travis Gelsler, Chevrolet, 246, \$15,220.
172 (4) Mike Wallace, Ford, 245, \$27,175.

173 (34) Randy Mamula, Chevrolet, 238, \$19,200.
174 (12) Tim Fedewa, Chevrolet, 211, engine failure, \$21,095.

175 (14) Tim Gordon, Ford, 210, slow, \$19,025.

176 (27) Jeff Walker, Dodge, 210, 8 a.m. engine failure, \$15,670.

177 (44) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,680.

178 (4) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,670.

179 (44) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,670.

180 (44) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,670.

181 (44) Johnny Sauter, Chevrolet, 169, electrical, \$15,670.

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Dolphins expect only Minor adjusting

BY MARK LONG

The Associated Press

DAVIE, Fla. — Rookie Fred Russell settled into Ricky Williams' former locker, a clear indication the Miami Dolphins were ready to move on as they opened training camp Saturday without their star running back.

It wasn't easy. Although Williams wasn't listed on any rosters and his No. 34 was nowhere to be found on the first day of camp, the majority of questions centered around his sudden and stunning retirement that left the Dolphins with a huge void to fill.

"It's football. People always leave football," tight end Randy McMichael said. "Sure, Ricky was the centerpiece of our offense. But now that he's not here, we have to move on. We can't just sit here and say, 'Oh my God, he's gone. What are we going to do now?'"

"We have to play football — with or without him."

Williams, who ran for 3,225 yards in two years with the Dolphins, hasn't given the team any reason to believe he will change his mind about quitting football. The quirky, 27-year-old former Heisman Trophy winner told The Miami Herald reporters played a large role in his decision to walk away after just five pro seasons.

"It makes for a great story, but for the most part, we're not even going to think about the locker room," said offensive line coach Jim Lachar. "We're not going to put any energy toward it. Obviously, there are probably going to be some personal thoughts that everyone may have, but we're going to deal with football and come together as a team. We're going to focus on the guys in the locker room."

Center Seth McKinney was



Dolphins running back Travis Minor (28) tries to elude Morlon Greenwood, right, during the first day of training camp as the starter.

maybe the most critical of Williams' decision, calling it "the most selfish thing a person could do."

"I said what I meant and I meant what I said," McKinney said. "I said he quit, and he did. I was bothered by it, but he's not part of this team and it doesn't affect us anymore. It's over. I was upset, but I'm not worried about it one bit."

The Dolphins have plenty of other things to worry about. The signing Pro Bowl defensive end Akeem Ogburne, deciding between Jay Fiedler and A.J. Feeley at quarterback, solidifying a revamped offensive line and working the kinks out of an offense that changed coordinators twice since the end of last season.

Williams' retirement overshadowed all of it Saturday.

"It's been overanalyzed and talked about. It's over now. Let it go. He's gone," defensive end Jason Taylor said. "I don't know where he is. I know we have a locker room full of guys who want

to play football. The timing was difficult, but you're dead bad hands sometimes and you have to play them."

"Our goals haven't changed. Our expectations haven't changed. Our resolve hasn't changed."

But the backfield sure has. Travis Minor opened camp as the starter, taking the first hand-off, sprinting up the middle.

The 5-foot-10, 205-pound back carried just 85 times for 373 yards the last two years and hasn't started a game in three NFL seasons.

"You have to look at it just like Ricky got hurt the first day of training camp and you lost him for the season," Taylor said. "New England was last year, and they didn't have Ricky. Their back wasn't half the back Ricky was."

"I've got the utmost confidence in Travis Minor. I'd give him the ball and see how far he can take it, then give him some water and hand it to him again."

Gibbs 'nervous' as Redskins open camp

The Associated Press

When Washington Redskins coach Joe Gibbs arrived at his first training camp in 12 years on Saturday, his players were waiting for him — and so were a few thousand fans.

They applauded the return of the Hall of Fame coach that led the Redskins to three Super Bowl titles.

"I didn't expect this many fans," said quarterback Mark Brunell, who never saw such hoopla in nine years with the Jacksonville Jaguars. "I knew there was going to be a lot of people here, but it's unbelievable."

Gibbs concentrated mostly on the offense but also paid close attention to special teams drills — a significant change from the departed Steve Spurrier, who always stayed close to the quarterbacks.

Asked to compare his emotions to his first Redskins training camp in 1981, the 63-year-old Gibbs joked: "I'm too old to remember '81."

"I think it's a lot of the same emotions, a lot of the same emotions," he added. "Nervous, apprehensive."

The season was the most physical Redskins practice since the early days of Norm Turner in the mid-1990s, with live tackling on some inside running plays.

"We're never really taking breaks," tackle Chris Samuels said. "We're always working. Last year and previous years, we would go hard and take some periods off where we're talking through some stuff. But we're on the field, we work hard, we get off the field."

Gibbs kept the quarterback competition as level as possible.

Brunell took the first set of reps, but he and Patrick Ramsey took an equal number of snaps. Gibbs said he won't decide on a quarterback until the final exhibition game.

Gibbs gave the first session a mediocre grade. There were too



many botched snaps and poorly run routes to make him happy.

"A good attitude, very rough," Gibbs said.

Bills' top picks sign

The Buffalo Bills' top two picks will be at training camp when it starts Sunday, one day after agreeing to contract terms.

Quarterback J.P. Losman signed a five-year deal that includes a \$5.6 million signing bonus. It could be worth as much as \$24.5 million if Losman meets all his incentives. Receiver Lee Evans also reached a deal Saturday but terms were not disclosed. Evans was selected 13th overall out of Wisconsin and Losman 22nd out of Tulane.

Rams' Turley re-injures back

MACOMB, Ill. — St. Louis Rams offensive tackle Kyle Turley re-injured his surgically repaired back Saturday and left training camp to get further tests, and he's concerned the situation could be career-threatening.

Turley underwent an MRI exam Saturday night, and on Sunday he was driving back to St. Louis. He also talked of possibly meeting with a back specialist in Los Angeles.

"It was a threat to my career last year," Turley said. "For it to have possibly reoccurred is definitely a bigger threat."

RB Bell breaks finger in first practice with Broncos

Rookie running back Tatum Bell ended his three-day holdout on Saturday only to break his right middle finger on Saturday when he hit someone's helmet during a drill.

Coach Mike Shanahan said he hopes Bell will be able to practice next week, but he won't be sure until doctors examine the finger.

Simmer Dayne looking to restore thinder

BY TOM CANAVAN

The Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — By all appearances, Heisman Trophy winner Ron Dayne is making the most of what could be his last chance with the New York Giants.

Just looking at the Giants' first-round draft pick in 2000 tells the story.

His gut is gone. His body is lean. His mind is focused on playing football — playing being the key word — for new coach Tom Coughlin in a world where he will share time at halfback with Tiki Barber.

"I think he realizes this is his time. This is his opportunity," Barber said Saturday between practices at camp. "Coach Coughlin said it right out when they met in the offseason. 'I am going to expect this out of you.'"

Dayne obviously listened after enduring the most frustrating and embarrassing season of his career in any level.

In 2003, Dayne did not dress for one game. Despite being healthy, Jim Fassel made him inactive 16 times in a season in

which the Giants won four games.

Dayne doesn't like to talk about the season, which was the final insult in a downward spiral for the man who left Wisconsin as the NCAA's all-time leading rusher.

"I just love to play football, and I want to win," Dayne said.

Barber said the season could have been a career breaker.

"Seasons like that, and situations like that, are what put people in the tank and cause them to retire," Barber said. "Ron didn't do that. It's been a blessing having a second chance, and frankly, he has taken advantage of it."

After taking over for Fassel in January, one of the first things Coughlin did was talk to Dayne, who was entering the final year of his contract.

A no-nonsense coach, Coughlin simply said everybody was going to start his tenure with a clean slate.

Dayne took advantage. He worked out daily, joined the team for the offseason training program and started to eat sensibly, cutting out the late night snacks.

While Dayne refuses to discuss his weight, Barber said Dayne weighed 233 pounds on Friday. Dayne reported to camp at 245 pounds last season.

"I see a hungry person, a person who wants to play," receiver Amani Toomer said. "He has lost a lot of weight. He is looking really good. A lot of people are surprised and happy, pleasantly surprised, the way he has worked out this offseason."

Having Dayne and Barber split the halfback job is nothing new.

The combination helped carry the Giants to a Super Bowl appearance in 2000. Barber gained 1,066 yards on 213 carries and Dayne had 770 on 228 attempts.

It was a "thunder and lightning" combination with Barber running outside and Dayne pounding inside the tackles.

Barber still has his "thunder and lightning" T-shirt.

"We complement each other well and push each other all the time," Dayne said. "We know when one of us is slowing down and one of us is feeling good and is on a roll. We have to talk to each other and be



Running back Ron Dayne is making the most of what could be his last chance with the Giants, entering camp in great shape.

straightforward with each other.

"If he ain't looking that good on a couple of plays, I'll tell him, and if I'm not, he'll tell me. It's like being a big brother," Dayne said.

Stupples ties record low to win first major

The Associated Press

SUNNINGDALE, England — Karen Stupples won her first major title Sunday with a record-tying score of 19 under 269 at the Women's British Open, while defending champion Annika Sorenstam's bid to become the second woman to win all four majors back-to-back ended in a tie for 13th.

Stupples shot an 8-under 64 in the final round to tie the record-low score in a major, set by Dottie Pepper at the 1999 Nabisco Dinah Shore, and finish five shots in front of Rachel Teske.

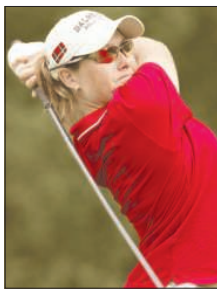
Starting the round a stroke behind third-round co-leaders Heather Bowie and Teske, Stupples began the day with an eagle on No. 1 and a double-eagle on the second hole.

"I thought, 'Crikey, it could be my day,'" said Stupples, who led after the first and second rounds. "Ideally I wanted to go birdie-birdie but eagle-albatross is unbelievable."

"I couldn't believe it, the crowd just went wild."

Stupples was the first English winner at the Women's British Open since Penny Grice-Whittaker in 1991 and first English winner of a major since Alison Nicholas, who won the U.S. Open in 1997.

Sorenstam, who had been chasing her eighth major and second this season, finished in a tie for 13th place at 8-under 280 after a final-round 71. The Swede, who successfully defended her LPGA Championship title in June, had been attempting to join Mickey Wright as the only golfer to win all four majors back-to-back.



England's Karen Stupples tied the record low for a major, shooting 8-under 64 on Sunday to win the Women's British Open.

Sorenstam won the U.S. Open in 1995-96 and the Nabisco Championship in 2001-02.

Wright won the 1958-59 U.S. Opens, '60-61 LPGA Championships, '61-62 Titleholders and '62-63 Western Opens.

"Of course I'm disappointed. I gave it all I got this week. It was tough for me. I missed a few shots here and there and I really couldn't get it going," Sorenstam said.

"I tried really hard. I tried and I fought and I didn't give up until the last putt went in."

"It's just unfortunate. I thought I was pre-

pared, I came in with a lot of good thoughts. Life goes on. I think I underestimated some of the rough areas around here."

Despite her scorching start, Stupples still found herself even with Teske after 12 holes. However, she pulled away from birdie putts on 15, 16 and 17. Teske ended up with a 70. Bowie finished another stroke back after a 71.

Singh out two strokes on Daly in Buck

GRAND BLANC, Mich. — Vijay Singh had a lot of company at the top of the PGA Open's All-Star leaderboard.

The big Fijian shot a 7-under 65 Saturday to take a two-stroke lead over John Daly and a three-shot advantage over Tiger Woods into the final round.

"I think it's more exciting for the fans," Woods said. "As a player, especially at this event, you just have to go out and make birdies."

Woods shot a bogey-free 66, and still lost ground to Singh on one of the easiest courses on the PGA Tour. Woods was three shots back along with Carlos Franco (67), and Daniel Chopra (66) was another stroke back.

Singh and Daly — who also had a 66 — will be in the final group, just behind Woods and Franco.

"I was nervous about playing with Vijay," said Franco, coming off a victory last week in Milwaukee. "Then I looked at the leaderboard and saw I would be playing with Tiger. Now, I'm even more nervous."

Singh — at 18 under after adding the 65 to his opening rounds of 63 and 70 — has won the last six tournaments he has led after 54 holes. Woods has won three events when entering the final round behind by at

least three shots.

Both have a chance to become the first to win multiple Big Bay Open titles in nearly four decades. Woods won at Warwick Hills two years ago, and Singh won in 1997.

Jacobsen, Stadler share Senior lead

ST. LOUIS — Peter Jacobsen shot a 1-under 70 for a share of the second round lead with Craig Stadler in the rain-delayed U.S. Senior Open.

Stadler had a 69 to match Jacobsen at 7 under, a stroke ahead of Jose Canizares (68), Jay Haas (70), Tom Kite (68), Fuzzy Zoeller (66), Bob Gilder (69) and D.A. Weibring (66) were 5 under, and Champions Tour's top two money winners, Gil Morgan (70) and Hale Irwin (67) followed at 4 under.

Jacobsen, who had arthroscopic hip surgery three months ago, will face a 36-hole test Sunday as U.S. Golf Association officials try to complete the tournament on time after rain washed out play Friday at BelleVue Country Club.

Donald leads first European Tour win

LODDEKOPINGE, Sweden — England's Luke Donald claimed his first European Tour victory Sunday, carding a 3-under 69 for a five-shot victory at the Scandinavian Masters.

Donald, who plays primarily on the PGA Tour, finished at 16-under 212 at Barseback Golf and Country Club, Sweden's Peter Hanson (71) and Henrik Stenson (69) tied for second at 11 under.

Three-time Scandinavian Masters champion Colin Montgomerie, who made bogey on the last two holes, and England's Ian Poulter (65) shared fourth place at 9 under. Montgomerie, who shot a 5-under 67, won two of his three titles at Barseback.

Roddick gets another shot at Federer

The Associated Press

TORONTO — Andy Roddick advanced to the final of the Tennis Masters Canada with a 6-5, 6-3 win over Nicolas Kiefer of Germany on Saturday.

Roddick hit four consecutive aces to go up 6-5 and then broke Kiefer's serve to take the set. Roddick got another break to take a 2-lead before Federer came back to match in about 90 minutes to advance.

"I look forward to that," Federer said.



Andy Roddick defeated Nicolas Kiefer on Saturday to set up a final with Roger Federer in the Masters Canada tournament.

er said. "I think a lot of people are and trying to build (the rivalry) up. It is normal especially since we have been kind of dominating the tour a little bit. My king I would say after the French Open."

Davenport extends streak

CARLSBAD, Calif. — Lindsay Davenport overcame a jammed right knee to beat Elena Demina 6-2, 6-4 in the Acura Classic semifinals Saturday and extended her winning streak to 13 consecutive matches.

Davenport will play for her third title in three weeks Sunday.

She will meet French Open champion Anastasia Myskina, who ousted 12th-seeded Venus Zvonareva 6-2, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (15), winning on her fifth match point.

U.S. wins without Iverson, James

BY EDDIE PELLIS

The Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — A reunited, and it feels so — familiar.

The U.S. Olympic team tipped off its exhibition season with an easy 96-71 victory over Puerto Rico on Saturday, although the most intriguing action came beforehand from old sparring partners Larry Brown and Allen Iverson.

Brown held Iverson, LeBron James and Amar'e Stoudemire out of the game for showing up late to a pre-game meeting, a move that brought back memories of the six fractious seasons The Coach and The Answer spent together with the Philadelphia 76ers.

"They broke a team rule and we are a team," Brown said. "They paid the penalty. Nobody wanted to embarrass them, and now we're moving on."

Brown and Iverson have been down this road before. Their time together with the Sixers was riddled with disagreements, tardiness and a general lack of harmony. They claimed to have patched things up since Brown left after the 2003 season, but in their first significant reunion, there was trouble.

Iverson claimed he "couldn't have been more than five minutes late."

"I'm the captain on the team and to be suspended just for being a couple minutes late just doesn't sit well for me," he said.

"I'm supposed to be one of the leaders of the team, and this is not a good look."

Almost as upsetting to Brown was the decision by arena officials to announce the suspensions over the public-address system. A sellout crowd of about 14,000 fans who don't get to see NBA stars pop in at Jacksonville too often booed lustily, and Brown glared over to the scorer's table.

"I was totally embarrassed by the announcement, because it embarrassed these guys, and it was totally uncalled for," Brown said. Midway through the fourth quarter, the crowd chanted "I-vee-on, I-vee-on," but to no avail. He, James and Stoudemire spent the entire game watching from the bench in shorts.

"It was a surprise that he made that decision at first," said James, whose team he was wearing red and 10 minutes late. "But I've got to go with what the coach said."

The other nine players put in a hot-and-cold effort to be expected from a group that is just getting to know each other and was further hamstrung by the suspensions.

Carmelo Anthony and Carlos Boozer led the Americans with 16 points each. Shawn Marion had eight assists, more than half of which were alley-ops, or sweet, no-look feeds. Tim Duncan finished with 15 points and 10 rebounds, while Shawn Marion had 12 points and nine rebounds.

There were rough spots, too. After getting off to a quick

start, the Americans went cold and got sloppy in the second quarter, possibly in part because they were playing with only two guards, only one of whom, Stephon Marbury, was a true point guard.

The U.S. team also has trouble shooting outside, going just 3-for-7 from three-point range, a problem that existed even before the suspensions, although one that surely won't be had when Iverson and James return.

If Puerto Rico was the 51st state, Larry Ayuso might have been a chance at U.S. citizenship. Ayuso (19 points) had five three-pointers to keep Puerto Rico close in the second quarter, and when his backcourt mate, Carlos Arroyo, made a steal and layup, Puerto Rico trailed by just five before halftime.

The Americans tore off 10 of the last 12 points in the third quarter to go ahead comfortably again, although Brown, who prides himself on defense and discipline, was in an ecstatic state with this performance.

"We were better in areas we need to improve on, but there's a long way to go," said Brown. "We turned it over a lot (20 times), the execution wasn't great. But this is only our fifth day of training."

The United States left Jacksonville later Saturday for Germany, where it will continue with workouts and exhibitions until the Olympics. Where the Americans will open against Puerto Rico on Aug. 15.

MLS top scorer leads East All-Stars to win

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Freddy Adu didn't have a problem sitting on the sideline during the first half of the MLS All-Star Game.

That's because the 15-year-old rookie sensation had an ideal vantage point to watch Armando Guevara verify his stature as the league's leading scorer.

Guevara scored twice in a two-minute span of the first half Saturday to carry the Eastern Conference past the West 3-2.

Adu, who plays for hometown D.C. United, entered after the beginning of the second half and thrilled the announced crowd of 21,378 with some sharp moves with the ball. But none of his stats came close to getting past goalkeeper Kevin Hartman.

That did nothing to deter the excitement that Adu derived from watching Guevara, a standout with the MetroStars who was voted MVP of the game.

"If he's not the best, he's one of the best," Adu said. "I haven't seen a lot of his games, but what he showed me out there, of my goodness, this guy is good. His worst game would be a good game."

Although Adu had no bearing on the game, one of his teammates did. Alecko Eskandarian of D.C. United kicked a left-footed shot into the left corner of the net in the 74th minute to make it 3-1.

Jason Kreis, a seven-time All-Star, scored in the 89th minute for the West on a 20-foot shot that bounced off the right post.

Sports briefs

Guevara is the captain of the Honduras national team and the MLS points leader with 25 in 17 matches. He broke up a scoreless duel by connecting from 18 yards out, then converted a penalty shot for a 2-0 lead.

Biffie wins from the back

FOUNTAIN, Colo. — Greg Biffie made fast work of the Salute to the Troops 250.

Racing in both Colorado and Pennsylvania this weekend, Biffie went from last to first Saturday at Pike's Peak to win his fourth Busch Series race of the season.

Biffie, driving full-time on both the Busch and Nextel Cup series, started at the back of the field because he did not qualify his car for the Busch Series race because of the Nextel Cup event in the Poconos.

He took control after a caution period on lap 215, climbing from 11th to pass Jason Leffler on lap 228. By lap 240, he had built almost a seven-second lead over Leffler.

Scotty Severn finished second, followed by Leffler, Clint Bowyer and series points leader Martin Truex Jr. Kyle Busch, second in the season standings, was 17th, leaving him 142 points behind Truex.

Kvapil wins Michigan truck race

BROOKLYN, Mich. — Travis Kvapil moved into the lead with 17 laps remaining and held on for his first NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series victory this season at Michigan International Speedway on Saturday.

Kvapil finished ahead of Ted Musgrave in the Line-X Spray-On Truck Bedliners 200, surging into the lead coming off a caution in the 100-lap race and holding off several challengers.

Cars stacked up three and four wide on the two-mile oval as drivers fought for position. The race ended under caution after an accident occurred behind Kvapil as he began his final lap.



Mike Tyson sits on the canvas after being knocked out by Danny Williams in the fourth round on Friday night.

For ex-champ Tyson, skills have followed the money

Tim Dahlberg



ing room before fights, wasn't.

"People forget this isn't a peak Mike Tyson. This was a Mike Tyson who was 38 years old," Williams said.

People did forget because they wanted desperately to believe that this was somehow the Iron Mike of old. They wanted to believe this was the Tyson from so many years ago who was so devastating before a rape conviction sent him to prison for three years.

Some 17,000 of them believed so much they spent hundreds, even thousands, of dollars on tickets to see him fight Friday night at Freedom Hall.

They got their money's worth, but not in the way of any other fight would have imagined.

Tyson went all out in the opening round, trying from his first punch to knock Williams out. For a few minutes, it looked as if he would do just that, landing some big left hooks and uppercuts that hurt his opponent.

But Williams showed something Tyson's handlers didn't think he had when they hand-picked him as an opponent — a chin. Maybe they shouldn't have been so cheap and picked Williams because he worked for half the \$500,000 that their first choice as an opponent demanded.

Late in the second round, Williams did something else Tyson's handlers didn't bank on — he began fighting back. Williams fought back so well he cut Tyson in the third round, then began battering the tiring former champion in the fourth.

The end came with a flurry of punches and a big right hand that sent Tyson sprawling into the ropes. The referee gave Tyson extra time to get up, and it seemed like he could.

But it was clear by the look on his face that Tyson already had de-

cided he wouldn't be fighting on. "I knew he would tire and he did," Williams said. "Once I hurt him I just let go. I just kept punching and punching."

Tyson left without making any excuses. He left without talking at all.

That's too bad because it would have been interesting to hear Tyson's take on a future which seems as cloudy as ever. The attorneys handling his bankruptcy case would also be interested in finding out how Tyson will ever be able to fight — six more fights as envisioned to earn nearly enough to pay off his sizable debts.

The public, of course, has always been fascinated with Tyson, and he's still a celebrity in a bizarre kind of way. But he can't make money if he doesn't fight, and the options are limited for a fighter who has been knocked out twice in his past three fights and doesn't seem to have the heart for it anymore.

Promoter Bob Arum was planning to offer Tyson a three fight deal worth up to \$100 million. Now, he'll have to fight for a fraction of that — something Tyson will likely decline to do.

"Can he be rehabilitated and made into a contender?" asked Arum. "Probably, yes. Will he? Probably, no. He's got to fight C and D fighters and build up his confidence. You can't put him in with legitimate heavyweights."

In a way, it was almost sad to see Tyson bleeding on the canvas, unwilling to go on. His kind of fighting style was never designed for longevity, however, and it's hard to imagine he's still fighting 18 years since he first won the heavyweight title.

"As Tyson himself likes to say, 'Boxing is a hurt business.' It is, and the one hurting most right now is Iron Mike himself."

Tim Dahlberg is the boxing writer for The Associated Press. Write to him at: tdaahlberg@aop.org

Zito tops Texas; A's back in first

Rangers surrender AL West lead; lefty improves to 8-0 at Arlington

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Barry Zito continued his mastery of the Rangers at Texas and the Oakland Athletics moved back into first place in the AL West with a 9-4 victory on Saturday night.

Zito (7-7) improved to 8-0 in 10 career road starts against Texas, allowing four runs and five hits in 5 1/3 innings. He struck out four and walked five for the A's, who have won seven of eight.

Erubiel Durazo went 2-for-3 and drove in two runs and Damian Miller also had two hits for the A's, who moved past Texas again a day after being knocked out of first place.

Oakland had a three-run fourth against starter Ryan Drese (7-6) on Durazo's two-run single and Drese's bases-loaded walk to Bobby Kielty.

Twins 5, Boston 4: Jacques Jones hit a tiebreaking solo home run in the eighth inning, a few hours after the clubs were involved in a four-team trade.

Jones hit his 17th homer off Alan Embree (2-2) with one out for the go-ahead run after Michael Cuddyer had tied it with a solo homer in the seventh.

Juan Rincon (9-3) got two outs in the eighth and Joe Nathan pitched a scoreless ninth for his 29th save in 30 opportunities as the host Twins won for the 10th time in 12 games.

By the time the game started, Red Sox shortstop Nomar Garciaparra was on a plane to join the Chicago Cubs, and Twins first baseman Doug Mientkiewicz was in the starting lineup for Boston.

Angels 9, Mariners 8: Jose Guillen hit a two-run homer in the 11th inning to give host Anaheim a stunning victory.

Curtis Pride, who took over in the outfield for injured Vladimir Guerrero, opened the 11th with a



Boston's Gabe Kapler is tagged out on a steal attempt in the ninth on Saturday by Minnesota's Luis Rivas.

single off Eddie Guardado (2-2). Guillen drove an 0-1 pitch into the left-field bullpen for his 20th homer and career-high fifth hit.

Brendan Donnelly (3-2) allowed two hits in two innings and got the win despite giving up a go-ahead RBI single by Bret Boone in the top of the 11th.

David Eckstein got an RBI single in the eighth against Shigetoshi Hasegawa to give Anaheim a 7-6 lead. Ichiro Suzuki homered into the right-field seats on reliever Troy Percival's first pitch of the ninth to tie it.

Royals 10, Indians 3: Matt Stairs hit a three-run double as host Kansas City broke an eight-game losing streak. Mike Sweeney and Deshaun Ford also homered for Kansas City, and Stairs matched a career high with his third triple of the season.

Omar Vizquel homered and ex-

tended his hitting streak to 13 games for Cleveland, which lost for just the second time in nine games and missed a chance to pass Chicago for second place in the AL Central.

Yankees 6, Orioles 4: Alex Rodriguez stole home and hit a long homer and Gary Sheffield also connected for host New York.

Javier Vazquez (12-6) lasted only 5 1/3 innings on a humid afternoon, but that was enough to improve to 9-2 in his last 14 starts. Erik Bedard (4-6) has lost four of his last five starts.

Mariano Rivera got three outs for his major league-leading 37th save in 40 chances and the 320th of his career, tying him with Roberto Hernandez for ninth on the career list.

Tigers 3, White Sox 2 (10): Cliff Politte walked Carlos Guillen to force in the winning

run in the bottom of the 10th, stretching Chicago's season-high losing streak to seven games.

First baseman Paul Konerko saved a potential winning hit, making a diving catch of Dmitri Young's liner, but Guillen followed by walking on a 3-1 pitch.

Devil Rays 6, Blue Jays 5: Jorge Sosa allowed two runs over innings in his first start of the year and Robert Fick hit a two-run homer for host Tampa Bay. Sosa (3-0) was moved into the rotation after 29 relief appearances when Victor Zambrano was traded Friday to the New York Mets. He gave up four hits, two walks and struck out five.

Carlos Delgado homered in his two at-bats against Sosa, giving the Toronto slugger homers in five straight at-bats off the Tampa Bay right-hander.

David Bush (1-2) gave up six runs and eight hits in 2 1/3 innings.

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Reporter Nancy Montgomery tells you your story from your perspective.

Major League Baseball scoreboard

American League									
East Division					West Division				
W	L	Pct	G	GB	W	L	Pct	G	GB
New York	45	58	439	8th	Oakland	58	563	-	
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Eight's enough, but only barely

Giants rout Morris with big first, then hang on in ninth to top Cards

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Ray Durham's bases-loaded triple capped an eight-run first inning uprising against Matt Morris, which proved to be just enough as the San Francisco Giants edged St. Louis 8-7 on Saturday night, ending the Cardinals' winning streak at five games.

Morris (11-7) got just two outs in a disastrous outing, allowing seven hits and a walk and hitting another of the 11 batters he faced.

The Giants snapped a three-game losing streak despite getting just four hits after the first.

St. Louis' potent lineup eventually got within a run in the ninth, but San Francisco's bullpen avoided an even bigger debacle than Morris' performance.

"If you score eight and then you don't score any more and get beat, you have to wait for another full moon to win a game," Giants manager Felipe Alou said.

Moments after Scott Rolen hit his 24th homer off closer Matt Herges in the ninth, Jim Edmonds doubled and scored on pinch-hitter Roger Cedeno's single to trim the Giants' lead to 8-7.

But John Mabry grounded into a double play before Jason Christiansen gave up a single to Yadier Molina. Christiansen then got Tony Womack to ground out for his third save in four chances.

J.T. Snow's double scored Durham and Michael Tucker with the Giants' first runs. After Barry Bonds grounded out, six of the next seven batters reached base.

A.J. Pierzynski and Marquis Grissom had run-scoring singles before Durham cleared the bases

and then scored himself on Tucker's double.

Padres 3, Dodgers 2: Phil Neri's infield single drove in the go-ahead run in the eighth and Jay Payton and Mark Loretta also had RBIs as the host Padres overcame a home run by Dodgers starter Kazuhisa Ishii and pulled within 2½ games of first-place Los Angeles in the NL West.

Akinori Otsuka (6-2) got the final out of the eighth, and Trevor Hoffman pitched a perfect ninth for his 29th save in 32 chances.

Rockies 8, Diamondbacks 4: Shawn Estes (11-4) pitched six innings and host Colorado took advantage of Arizona's shoddy defense in a five-run sixth. Colorado has won five straight over Arizona and seven of nine overall.

Arizona starter Brandon Webb (4-12) allowed six hits and six runs, but just one was earned.

Astros 8, Reds 0: Darren Oliver (3-3), acquired from Florida on July 22, made his first start for the Astros and allowed only Adam Dunn's single in five innings. Three Astros combined on a four-hitter and Carlos Beltran and Mike Lamb homered in a six-run ninth. Brandon Claussen (1-1) pitched into the sixth, allowing three hits and five walks in his third start for the Reds.

Phillies 4, Cubs 3: Mike Lieberthal and Bobby Abreu each hit two-run homers following Chicago errors, helping Philadelphia end a five-game losing skid.

Kevin Millwood (9-6) pitched 6½ innings, retiring 10 of the last 11 batters he faced. He allowed three runs — two earned — and three hits while striking out eight. Tim Worrell pitched the ninth for his 11th save in 15 chances.

Pirates 4, Brewers 1: Ryan Vogelsong (3-7), starting for the traded Kris Benson, gave up three hits and one run in five innings in his first start since June 23. He struck out four and walked one.

Jose Mesa pitched the ninth for his 30th save in 32 chances.

Braves 8, Mets 0: Jaret Wright stayed undefeated in July and Johnny Estrada homered to spoil the Mets debut of Kris Benson. Pitching against the Braves for the third straight start, Benson (8-9) lasted only five innings and lost his second in a row.

The Braves tagged him for seven runs on seven hits in this one as the Mets lost for the 13th time in 18 games.

Wright (9-5) allowed three hits in seven innings and improved to 4-0 this month.

Expos 8, Marlins 5: Termel Sledge hit his first career grand slam after Paul Lo Duca hit a two-run homer in his first at-bat for Florida. Lo Duca, acquired with two other players from Los Angeles on Friday, joined the Marlins in their dugout in the fifth inning and homered in the sixth as a pinch-hitter.



Montreal Expos second baseman Jose Vidro waits with the ball to tag out Florida Marlins baserunner Juan Pierre on a steal attempt in the first inning of Saturday night's game in Miami. The Expos beat Florida 8-5.



Catcher Mike Piazza talks with Kris Benson during New York's 8-0 loss to Atlanta in Benson's Mets debut on Saturday.



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STARS AND STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper

Dodgers are biggest gamblers at deadline

BY ROSS NEWHAN
Los Angeles Times

The Big Unit wasn't traded on deadline Sunday, but a parcel of the Red Sox Nation was.

In a spotlight-stealing, four-team blockbuster, Nomar Garciaparra exchanged one curse for another, going from landmark status among Boston fans to the short-stop-needy Chicago Cubs.

What to make of a trade in which Orlando Cabrera moves from the Montreal Expos to become the Red Sox shortstop and Garciaparra escapes a cycle of negativity that began with Boston's off-season attempt to acquire Alex Rodriguez? What to think of the New York Yankees' success in coercing the Chicago White Sox to take the inconsistent Jose Contreras in exchange for the more reliable Esteban Loaiza? What to feel about Paul DePodesta's bullpen-busting, outfield-altering, chemistry-challenging overhaul of the division-leading Dodgers after he failed to land the battery of Johnson & Johnson? Some answers:

No more Nomar:

This complex transaction should prove positive for the Cubs, whose shortstops (i.e. Alex Gonzalez, now Cabrera's replacement in Montreal) were the least productive in the National League, and for Garciaparra.

Not only does he go from one wild card possibility to another, securing a two-month look at a new league before becoming eligible for free agency, but he gets to breathe some fresh air.

"The media there dwelled on a perception of how unhappy they thought Nomar was," his dad, Ramon, said from his La Habra Heights, Calif., home Saturday, "and that just kept spreading even though

Nomar never said anything to support it.

"I mean, I don't know how unhappy he could have been when he just built a \$3 million house in Boston that he hasn't even had the chance to move into yet, but we talked today and he definitely thinks this trade will be good for him.

"The hard part will be leaving the fans, but he's going to a good team and he should get more of a chance now to relax and go play. There were so many negatives going on with the team and his situation in Boston."

While the Cubs were giving up little for a franchise player, the Red Sox landed two Gold Glove winners in the trade — Cabrera and Minnesota Twins' first baseman Doug Mientkiewicz — and in a separate deal improved their depth and speed by acquiring Dave Roberts from the Dodgers.

"The reality is that we've been a .500 team for three months now," Boston General Manager Theo Epstein said. "We had a potential fatal flaw with our defense that this trade helps correct, and we have more dimension now with a guy like Dave Roberts."

All of that may be true, but on a day that many in New England thought they would never see, the Red Sox trading the popular Garciaparra out of the division and league, the hated Yankees weren't simply sitting idle.

No way, Jose:

Lacking the type of prospects that might have influenced the Diamondbacks to trade Randy Johnson, the suspicion is that Yankee owner George Steinbrenner was determined to improve his fragile rotation.

The remarkable part of it was that the Yankees found a taker for the enigmatic Contreras, who was pounded by Baltimore on Thursday, is 6-5 with a 5.64 earned-run average and has almost 2½ years left on the bust of a four-year, \$32-million contract. Of course, the Yankees dipped into petty cash and agreed to include \$4 million



Dodgers General Manager Paul DePodesta took a big risk by trading popular catcher Paul Lo Duca, left, to the Florida Marlins.

in the deal for Loaiza, who won 21 games for the White Sox last year but has rivaled Contreras as a 2004 disappointment at 9-5, 4.86 and will be eligible for free agency.

When the accountants had finished, the suddenly struggling White Sox saw a greater upside with the multiyear commitment to the latent talent of Contreras while the Yankees, eyeing Orlando, preferred Loaiza's experience, stability and All-Star credentials.

No whining, please:

There is much at risk in the moves DePodesta made in the 48 hours before the deadline, but stop the wailing. If the freshman general manager hadn't tried to add a pitcher and/or hitter, as the letter writers and talk shows urged, what would have been the reaction?

Brad Penny upgrades the rotation while Hideo Nomo and Edwin Jackson remain on the disabled list and Jose Lima works with mirrors.

Steve Finley improves the offense while the Dodgers continue to pray that the bone

spur in Adrian Beltré's ankle doesn't break loose, and Hee Seop Choi arrives with more home runs than Shawn Green.

Should DePodesta have known that Charles Johnson was going to reject the chance to join the Dodgers before trading Paul Lo Duca? Well, Johnson changed his mind so many times during the process that the Colorado Rockies catcher might have been diagnosed with altitude sickness.

Should DePodesta have known that he couldn't satisfy Arizona's demands for Randy Johnson before settling on Penny? Well, multiple sources now agree that it was hard to know what the Diamondbacks really wanted for Johnson or if they ever really intended to trade him or even if they ever presented the Dodgers to him. As for settling on Penny, didn't he have a 2-0 record in the World Series and isn't his earned-run average the NL's 11th best and better than that of any Dodger except Odlis Pérez, who is also 3.15?

Make no mistake, there are issues here. Can Darren Dreifort and Duane Sanchez replace the setup dominance of Guillermo Mota? Is Choi an emerging threat or are his .194 average against left-handers and .224 average with runners in scoring position telltale concerns? Can David Ross and Brent Mayne replace Lo Duca, and can the Dodgers compensate for the loss of leadership from Lo Duca and Roberts?

Chemistry, of course, is a mysterious thing, but it is worth remembering that Dodger chemistry wasn't worth much in the second half of last season when Lo Duca slumped badly, a management concern that was compounded by his falloff this June and July.

"I think chemistry is important," DePodesta said, "but I think it's more than guys getting along. It's also guys making the guys around them better. I mean, I think the guys we're bringing in have a chance to do that."

The benefit of doubt? On deadline Saturday, at least, the GM gets it.

Era: Garciaparra unhappy with offseason trade talk

ERA, FROM BACK PAGE

The Cubs got Garciaparra and minor league outfielder Matt Moulton. Montreal acquired Gonzalez, pitcher Francis Beltrán and infielder Brendan Harris and the Twins got minor league pitcher Justin Jones.

"It was complicated — so many teams," Twins GM Terry Ryan said. "I can see why things get bogged down. I don't know if deadlines are a good thing or not, we were real close."

The Red Sox were close to dealing Garciaparra last winter after he rejected a four-year, \$60 million extension.

Boston tried to acquire Alex Rodriguez from Texas to play shortstop and although it would have been Manny Ramirez going to the Rangers, the Red Sox would have then shipped out Garciaparra, possibly to either the Chicago White Sox or Los Angeles.

Instead, Rodriguez went to the Yankees and Garciaparra stayed and stewed. Confessing that his feelings were hurt, he said he still wanted to finish his career with the Red Sox.

But the good feelings didn't last through spring training. After eight hitless at-bats, he injured his Achilles tendon and missed 57

games with an injury that was supposed to keep him out a week.

Garciaparra, 31, is batting .321 with five home runs and 21 RBIs in 38 games this season.

The Cubs hoped to have Garciaparra available Sunday at Wrigley Field to play against Philadelphia.

"I hope so. I have not talked to him yet. He is not too far up the road in Minneapolis, so hopefully he will be here," Henry said.

Cabrera, a former Gold Glove winner, is batting .246 with four home runs and 31 RBIs. The Expos' future is uncertain, and they've often been forced to trade their best players for young, inexpensive talent.

"Just the fact that I didn't sign back with the team, you can tell from there that I don't like the situation," Cabrera said.

"I'm really excited. I'm going to a contending team. They're fighting for the wild card right now," he said. "Obviously, I have to fill some big shoes with Nomar."

Gonzalez, who has been injured for much of the season, He's hitting only .222 with three home runs and eight RBIs.

Mientkiewicz is hitting .246 with five homers and 25 RBIs. A crowded roster made him expendable for the AL Central leaders.

SPORTS



Zito baffles Texas again
as Oakland reclaims
top spot in AL West, Page 28

End of an era in Boston

SS Garciaparra
traded to Cubs
in four-team deal

BY HOWARD ULMAN
The Associated Press

BOSTON — No more Nomar.

Trade rumors finally turned into reality when the Boston Red Sox sent five-time All-Star shortstop Nomar Garciaparra to the Chicago Cubs in a four-team deal Saturday shortly before baseball's trade deadline.

Montreal shortstop Orlando Cabrera, Cubs shortstop Alex Gonzalez and Minnesota first baseman Doug Mientkiewicz also moved in a trade so big that it caught the attention of big

"I can't really picture him playing anywhere else. You think Red Sox, Nomar's the first name you think of."

Derek Jeter
N.Y. Yankees shortstop

"When I got out of the car this morning about 7, I think, I was prepared for a real big day for the Cubs or I would be in here hanging my head a little bit today," he said. "You never go to work thinking he's going to be available."

Garciaparra was in the final year of his contract, and Red Sox GM Theo Epstein said he wasn't confident the team would be able to re-sign the two-time AL batting champion. Garciaparra was dressed in his Red Sox jersey, preparing to play at Minnesota, when he heard about the trade.

"My initial reaction was 'wow,'" he said.

"If it was in my control, I'd still be wearing a Red Sox uniform, because it's the place I know, I love. All of those fans, I'll always remember. But I'm also going to another great place. I'm going to a phenomenal city with great tradition as well, phenomenal fans, great organization."

"I can't really picture him playing anywhere else," New York Yankees star Derek Jeter said of Garciaparra. "You think Red Sox, Nomar's the first name you think of."

Cubs General Manager Jim Hendry was gleeful to get him.

"When I got out of the car this morning about 7, I think, I was prepared for a real big day for the Cubs or I would be in here hanging my head a little bit today," he said. "You never go to work thinking he's going to be available."



Nomar Garciaparra tips his cap to the crowd after hitting a grand slam earlier this season at Fenway Park. Garciaparra, a fixture in Boston for almost a decade, was traded to the Chicago Cubs in a four-team deal Saturday that also involved shortstops Orlando Cabrera and Alex Gonzalez.

And he added: "Hopefully, we'll see them in the World Series."

The Red Sox wound up with Cabrera and Mientkiewicz, both Gold Glovers.

"I thought there was a flaw on the club that we couldn't allow to become a fatal flaw, that

the defense on this team is not championship caliber," Epstein said. "In my mind we were not going to win a World Series with our defense the way it was."

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Deadline deals

Several teams swapped players in the hours before Saturday's non-waiver trade deadline. Some of the highlights:

Trade of the day



Cubs get:

SS Nomar Garciaparra
(from Boston)
Five-time all-star, two-time AL batting champion
OF Matt Murton
(minor league)

Boston gets:

SS Orlando Cabrera
(from Montreal)
Former Gold Glove winner
1B Doug Mientkiewicz
(from Twins)
Known for a good glove



Montreal gets:

SS Alex Gonzalez
(from Chicago)
Has been injured much of the season
RHP Francis Beltran
INF Brendan Harris

Twins get:

LHP Justin Jones
(from Chicago's minor league)

Other notable trades



Dodgers get:

CF Steve Finley
(from Arizona)
Four-time Gold Glove winner
C Brent Mayne

Arizona gets:

C Koyie Hill
(minor league)
OF Reggie Abercrombie
LHP Bill Murphy



New York get:

RHP Estaban Loaiza
(from Chicago)
Made second straight All-Star appearance

Chicago get:

RHP Jose Contreras
(and cash)
Has had up-and-down tendencies

USA routs Puerto Rico in exhibition despite benching some of its biggest stars

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Dolphins turning to Minor to plug major hole left by Williams

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At 38 years old, Tyson unlikely to get up from latest fall in turbulent career

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